

# Saskatchewan Monthly Economic Indicators Report

May 2014



Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy  
[www.economy.gov.sk.ca](http://www.economy.gov.sk.ca)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary.....	2
Economic Growth and Forecasts .....	4
GDP at Basic Prices.....	4
Forecasts .....	6
Exchange Rate and Interest Rate .....	7
Labour Market .....	9
Overview .....	9
Employment by Industry.....	10
Employment by Economic Region.....	11
Unemployment Rate .....	12
Unemployment by Economic Region .....	13
Commodity Prices .....	14
Production and Exports.....	15
Manufacturing Shipments.....	15
Potash Production.....	17
Other Minerals Production .....	18
Oil and Natural Gas Production.....	19
Farm Cash Receipts .....	20
Exports of Goods .....	21
Investment and Construction .....	23
Private and Public Capital Investment .....	23
Non-Residential Investment.....	24
Building Permits .....	25
Urban Housing Starts .....	26
Other Indicators .....	27
Retail and Wholesale Trade .....	27
New Motor Vehicles Sales.....	29
Consumer Price Index .....	30
Average Weekly Earnings.....	32
Population .....	34
Inter-Provincial Migration .....	35
Business Incorporations and Bankruptcies .....	36
Out-of-Country Visitors .....	37
Saskatchewan Economic Indicators .....	38

## Executive Summary

Recent highlights for the Saskatchewan economy include the following:

### Economic Growth and Forecasts

According to Statistics Canada's revised estimates released on April 29, 2014, Saskatchewan posted a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at basic prices of \$58.5 billion (B) (in 2007 chained dollars) in 2013. This represented an increase of 4.8% in real GDP, compared to 2012. Saskatchewan ranked second among the provinces in terms of percentage change.

A number of major economic forecasters expect Saskatchewan will lead most other provinces in economic growth in 2014 and 2015. For 2014, the average estimate for Saskatchewan is 2.4%, second among the provinces and above the national rate of 2.3%. Conference Board of Canada expects Saskatchewan's growth rate (+2.1%) to be the fourth-highest among the provinces in 2014.

For 2015, the average real GDP growth forecast for Saskatchewan is 2.6%, second among the provinces and the same as the national rate of 2.6%.

According to the survey results released in March 2014 by Manpower Inc., a multi-national staffing company, employers in Saskatchewan are optimistic about the April to June 2014 period. Of the employers surveyed, 94% in Saskatoon and 97% in Regina expect staffing levels to increase or stay the same during that period. Among the 47 cities surveyed, Regina ranked sixth.

### Labour Market

On a seasonally adjusted basis, Saskatchewan employment for April 2014 increased by 3,000 to 561,300 from March 2014.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Saskatchewan stood at 3.4% in April 2014, down from 4.5% in March 2014. It was the lowest rate in Canada. The national unemployment rate was 6.9%, unchanged from March 2014.

### Production and Exports

In March 2014, the value of manufacturing shipments in Saskatchewan totalled \$1.5B, an increase of 7.3% compared to March 2013. Saskatchewan ranked fourth among the provinces in terms of percentage change.

In March 2014, compared to March 2013, Saskatchewan's potash production decreased by 12.4%, to 0.96 million (M) tonnes K2O, while potash sales decreased by 0.3% to 1.1M tonnes K2O. In the first three months of 2014, the province's potash production was up by 0.9% to 2.6M tonnes K2O, while sales were up by 14.3% to 2.9M tonnes K2O, compared to the same period in 2013.

In March 2014, oil production in Saskatchewan increased by 7.4% to 2.6M cubic metres, while natural gas production increased by 3.0% to 471.8M cubic metres, compared to March 2013. In the first three months of 2014, production of oil increased by 5.2% to 7.4M cubic metres, while production of natural gas in the province increased by 2.2% to 1.4M cubic metres, compared to the same period in 2013.

In March 2014, Saskatchewan's international exports of goods decreased by 7.0%, to \$2.79B, down from \$3.0B in March 2013. In the first three months of 2014, exports of goods decreased by 8.9%, to \$7.6B, compared to the same period in 2013 (\$8.3B).

#### **Investment and Construction**

In 2013, capital investment in Saskatchewan decreased by 1.2%, to \$21.3B, compared to 2012, with \$20.9B in capital investment expected for 2014.

In the first quarter of 2014, investment in non-residential construction in Saskatchewan totalled \$464.1M, up by 0.3%, compared to \$462.9M in the first quarter of 2013. In 2013, investment in non-residential construction in the province totalled \$1.8B, a decrease of 4.5%, compared to 2012.

The value of building permits issued in Saskatchewan was down by 29.7%, to \$189.9M in March 2014 compared to March 2013. In the first three months of 2014, the value of building permits was down by 17.0%, compared to the same period in 2013.

The number of housing starts in Saskatchewan's urban centres increased by 54.0% in April 2014, compared to April 2013. In the first four months of 2014, the number of housing starts in the province's urban centres was up by 19.3%, on average, compared to the same period in 2013.

#### **Other Indicators**

In March 2014, retail sales were up by 8.0% to \$1.5B, compared to March 2013. During this period, wholesale trade totalled \$2.2B, a decrease of 2.8%.

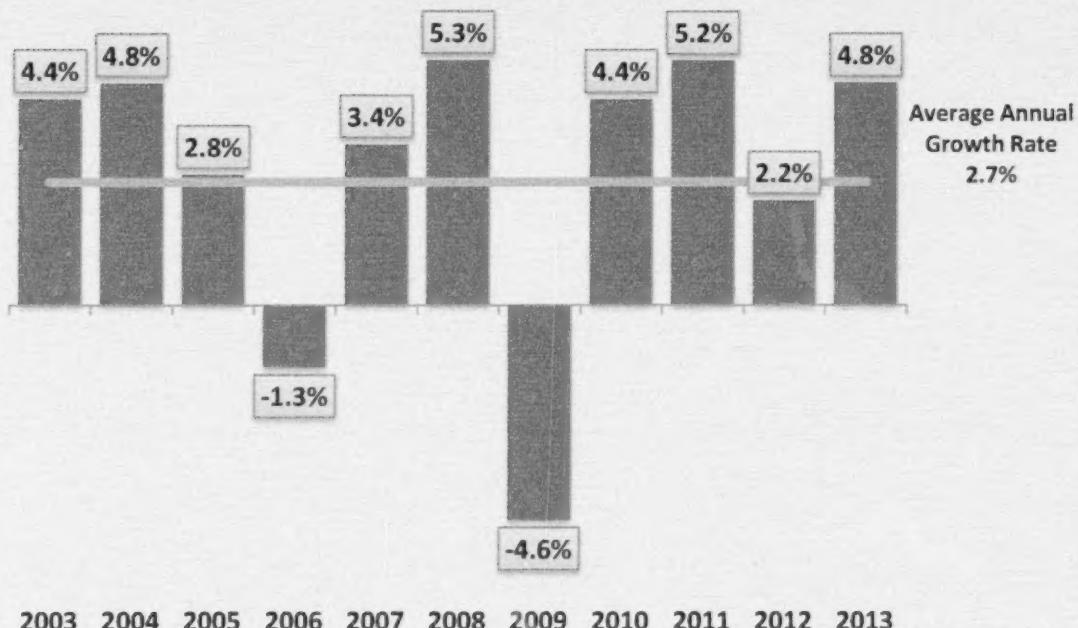
In March 2014, new motor vehicle sales in Saskatchewan increased by 10.5%, to 5,096 units, compared to March 2013.

Saskatchewan's average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all industries in February 2014 increased by 1.3%, or \$11.94, to \$961.90, compared to February 2013. The national average earnings increased by 2.3%, or \$21.12, to \$932.27 during the same period.

The province's population was estimated at 1,117,503 as of January 1, 2014, an increase of 20,056 people since January 1, 2013 (1,097,447) and an increase of 3,333 people from October 1, 2013 (1,114,170).

## Economic Growth and Forecasts

### Saskatchewan's Real GDP at Basic Prices



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Tables 379-0030

According to Statistics Canada's estimates (released on April 29, 2014), Saskatchewan posted a GDP at basic prices of \$58.5B (in 2007 chained dollars) in 2013. This represented an increase of 4.8% in real GDP, compared to 2012. Saskatchewan's real GDP growth of 4.8% ranked second among the provinces in 2013. Nine of the 10 provinces had positive growth in real GDP in 2013, including Newfoundland and Labrador at 7.9%, Saskatchewan at 4.8%, Alberta at 3.8%, Manitoba at 2.2%, British Columbia (B.C.) at 2.0%, Prince Edward Island at 1.4%, Ontario at 1.2%, Québec at 1.1%, and Nova Scotia at 0.8%. New Brunswick (-0.01%) recorded a slight decline in GDP. The national average was up by 2.0% in 2013.

Statistics Canada reports that Saskatchewan posted a growth rate of 4.8% in 2013, its second-best growth since the economic recession in 2009. Compared to other sectors, agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting contributed the most to growth (+34.2%) due largely to the record harvest in the agriculture sector. GDP in the mining and oil and gas extraction sector increased by 2.0%. In 2013, the oil and gas extraction sector experienced a slight growth of 0.8% and the mining (excluding oil and gas) sector grew by 5.9%, thanks to stellar performance of non-metallic mineral mining (including potash mining) in the first half of 2013. Manufacturing output increased by 3.4% and the utilities sector grew by 4.9%. Construction was the only goods-producing sector to experience a decline, due largely to a decrease in engineering construction.

GDP in the services-producing sector increased by 3.0% in 2013. Wholesale trade (+8.7%) and transportation and warehousing (+4.0%) grew as a result of increased activity in the goods-producing industries. Growth in retail trade (+4.3%), finance and insurance (+3.9%) and real estate and rental and

leasing (+3.6%) reflected the strong employment and population growth in the province and increased wage rate.

#### Saskatchewan's Real GDP Growth Rate by Industry

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>All industries</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>
Goods-producing industries	-9.8%	6.5%	6.2%	1.4%	6.6%
Service-producing industries	0.9%	2.5%	4.3%	3.0%	3.0%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-1.7%	-19.0%	13.1%	2.3%	34.2%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	-19.7%	17.1%	5.3%	-0.01%	2.0%
Utilities	-2.2%	7.6%	0.6%	0.2%	4.9%
Construction	12.7%	8.2%	6.0%	-1.4%	-3.0%
Manufacturing	-0.8%	-2.0%	5.4%	11.8%	3.4%
Wholesale trade	-8.9%	10.2%	14.4%	1.2%	8.7%
Retail trade	-0.3%	2.7%	4.3%	6.0%	4.3%
Transportation and warehousing	-0.3%	-1.2%	6.3%	3.2%	4.0%
Information and cultural industries	3.5%	4.2%	3.0%	2.0%	1.3%
Finance and insurance	-4.6%	2.0%	3.0%	2.5%	3.9%
Real estate and rental and leasing	4.0%	3.0%	4.3%	3.7%	3.6%
Professional, scientific and technical services	0.1%	3.8%	5.8%	5.6%	0.7%
Management of companies and enterprises	3.6%	-8.1%	4.8%	-5.5%	1.7%
Administrative & support, waste managt and remediation	-0.5%	2.8%	2.2%	6.4%	-0.6%
Educational services	2.9%	0.8%	0.9%	1.6%	1.6%
Health care and social assistance	3.2%	1.9%	1.3%	2.6%	1.2%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	3.6%	0.0%	0.2%	-0.9%	4.2%
Accommodation and food services	6.3%	0.9%	0.8%	5.7%	4.4%
Other services (except public administration)	2.0%	-0.5%	3.8%	1.5%	1.8%
Public administration	3.8%	3.0%	3.8%	2.5%	0.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 379-0030

Saskatchewan's Real GDP Growth Forecasts					
Institution	(Release Date)	2014		2015	
		Growth	Ranking	Growth	Ranking
RBC	(March 2014)	2.0%	4th	2.7%	4th
Scotiabank	(May 2014)	2.3%	2nd	2.6%	3rd
CIBC	(October 2013)	2.8%	2nd	--	--
Global Insight	(January 2014)	2.7%	2nd	2.9%	2nd
BMO	(May 2014)	2.4%	2nd	2.7%	2nd
TD Bank	(April 2014)	2.4%	2nd	2.3%	5th
CBOC	(Winter 2014)	2.1%	4th	2.2%	7th
<b>Average (Private Inst.)</b>		<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>2nd</b>
CMHC	(Q2 2014)	2.3%	2nd	2.5%	4th
NBC	(Winter 2014)	2.6%	2nd	2.5%	4th
SK Finance (Budget 2014-15)		2.2%	--	2.3%	--

In its Winter 2014 Provincial Outlook, the Conference Board of Canada (CBOC) predicts the province's economy will grow by 2.1% in 2014. The Winter 2014 Outlook of the CBOC predicts moderate economic performance for the following two years, due to weaker prospects for the potash mining industry. In contrast to the less than stellar growth outlook in the non-metallic mining industry, metal mining is expected to be a bright spot in the next two years as increased uranium production is expected to contribute significantly to this sector's output.

Based on the Winter 2014 Outlook the CBOC forecasts that real GDP in Saskatchewan's agriculture sector will decrease by 3.4% in 2014 and grow by 0.4% in 2015. According to the CBOC, real GDP in mining (including the oil and gas sector) will decrease by 0.4% in 2014 and increase by 1.3% in 2015. Manufacturing is forecast to increase by 6.6% in 2014 and 2.9% in 2015.

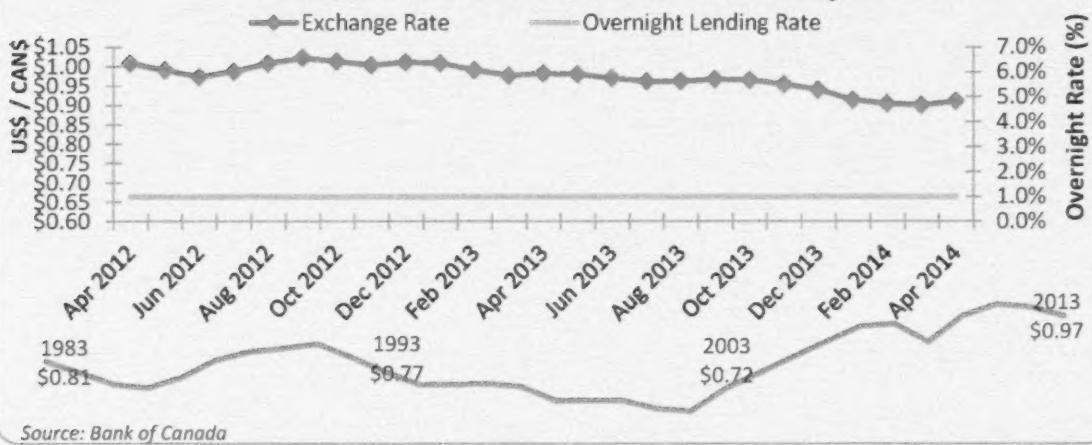
For the construction sector, the CBOC forecasts growth of 7.6% and 2.4% in 2014 and 2015, respectively. According to projections by the CBOC, utilities will decrease by 2.7% in 2014 and 3.0% in 2015. Overall, the goods-producing industries are forecast to increase by 1.9% in 2014 and 1.8% in 2015.

The CBOC expects the Saskatchewan service sector will grow by 2.3% in 2014 and 2.5% in 2015. The wholesale and retail trade sector is forecast to grow by 3.3% and 2.3% in 2014 and 2015, respectively. The transportation and warehousing sector is expected to see growth of 1.7% in 2014 and 1.4% in 2015. Real GDP in the finance and insurance sector is anticipated to grow by 3.1% in 2014 and 3.2% in 2015. Public administration is expected to grow by 0.1% in 2014 and 2.0% in 2015.

The CBOC remains optimistic about the province's labour market. It forecasts employment growth of 12,000 (+2.1%) in 2014 and 10,000 (+1.7%) in 2015.

According to the survey results released in March 2014 by Manpower Inc., a multi-national staffing company, employers in Saskatchewan are optimistic about the April to June 2014 period. Of the employers surveyed, 94% in Saskatoon and 97% in Regina expect staffing levels to increase or stay the same during that period. Among the 47 cities surveyed, Regina ranked sixth.

## Target for the Overnight Lending Rate and Exchange Rate of the Canadian Dollar in U.S. Currency



The exchange rate (the Canadian dollar in U.S. currency) for April 2014 averaged 90.99 cents U.S., a decrease of 7.3%, compared to April 2013. As of May 26, 2014, the Canadian dollar was trading at 0.9208 USD.

On April 16, the Bank of Canada decided to maintain its target for the overnight lending rate at 1.0%. The Bank Rate is correspondingly 1.25%, and the deposit rate is 0.75%. Also, in most of the chartered banks, the prime lending rate stands at 3.0%.

Global economic growth is expected to strengthen over the next three years because of the dissipation of headwinds that have been restraining activity. In the words of the Bank, "The economic recovery in the United States appears to be on track, despite soft readings in the last few months largely due to unusual weather. Indeed, private demand could turn out to be stronger than anticipated. Europe's economy is growing modestly, but inflation remains too low and the nascent recovery could be undermined by risks emanating from the Russia-Ukraine situation. In China and other emerging-market economies growth is expected to be solid, although there are growing concerns about financial vulnerabilities. Overall, global growth is expected to pick up to 3.3 per cent in 2014 and increase further to 3.7 per cent in 2015 and 2016".

On the domestic front, the Bank continues to expect the Canadian economy to grow at a modest to moderate pace. According to the Bank, "Competitiveness challenges continue to weigh on Canadian exporters' ability to benefit from stronger growth abroad. However, a range of export subsectors have been growing in line with fundamentals, which suggests that as the U.S. recovery gathers momentum and becomes more broadly-based, many of our exports will benefit. The lower Canadian dollar should provide additional support. We continue to believe that rising global demand for Canadian goods and services, combined with the assumed high level of oil prices, will stimulate business investment in Canada and shift the economy to a more sustainable growth track".

The Bank of Canada's next scheduled date for announcing the overnight rate is June 4, 2014.

On April 30, 2014, the Federal Open Market Committee of the U.S. Federal Reserve maintained its overnight Federal funds rate at the range of 0% to 0.25%. The Committee continues to anticipate that

it likely will be appropriate to maintain the current target range for the federal funds rate for a considerable time after the asset purchase program ends, especially if projected inflation continues to run below the Committee's 2% longer-run goal.

The Federal Open Market Committee's next meeting is scheduled for June 17-18, 2014.

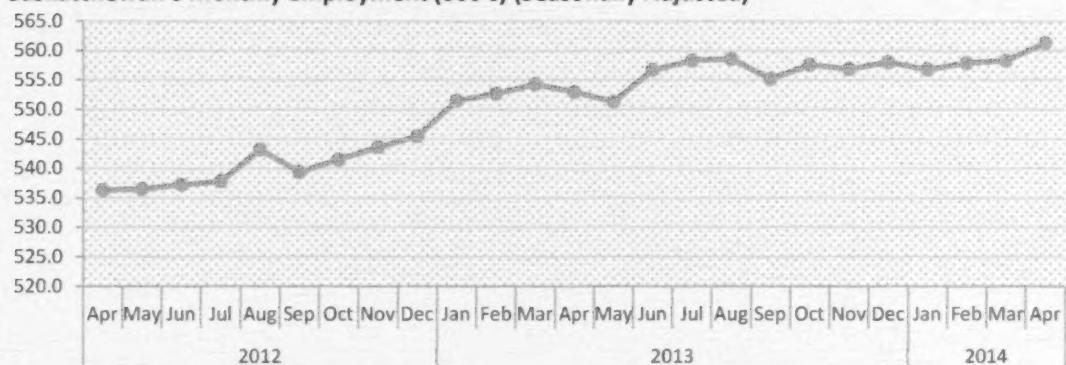
## Labour Market

### Overview

In April 2014, on a seasonally adjusted basis, Saskatchewan's employment increased by 3,000 or 0.5%, compared to March 2014. Saskatchewan's increase in employment ranked first among the provinces on a percentage basis.

Over the past month, full-time employment grew by 1,400 and part-time employment grew by 1,600. Employment for women increased by 3,400 and employment for men decreased by 400, compared to March 2014. Jobs among youth remained unchanged compared to the previous month.

#### Saskatchewan's Monthly Employment (000's) (Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0087

Compared to April 2013, on an unadjusted basis, employment increased 1.5% to 557,000 in April 2014. Saskatchewan's growth rate ranked second among provinces, and was above the national increase of 0.8%.

#### Saskatchewan's Employment (000's)

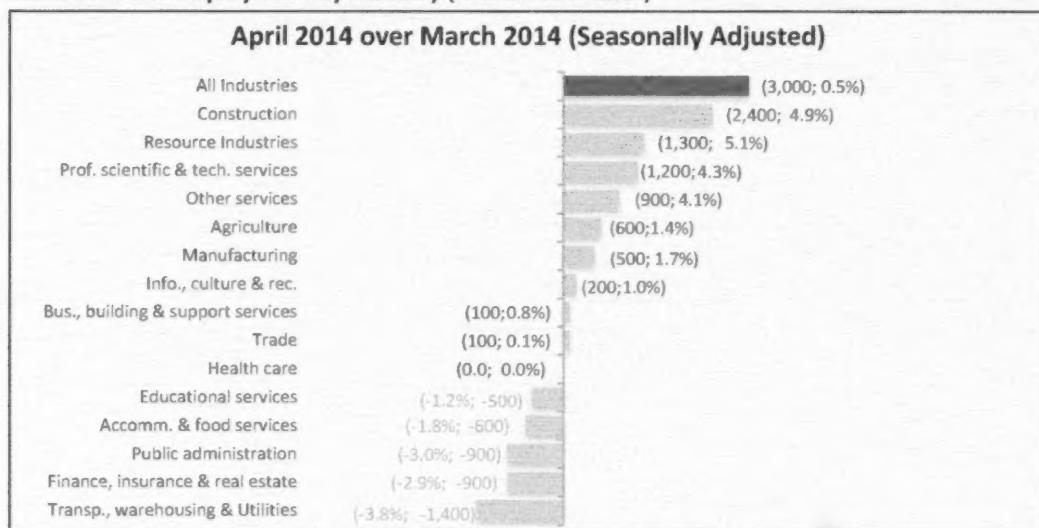
	Month-to-month (Seasonally Adjusted)				Year-over-year (Unadjusted)			
	Mar-14	Apr-14	-/+chg	%chg	Apr-13	Apr-14	-/+chg	%chg
Total (15+)	558.3	561.3	↑ 3.0	0.5%	548.5	557.0	↑ 8.5	1.5%
Male	305.1	304.7	↓ -0.4	-0.1%	292.4	299.4	↑ 7.0	2.4%
Female	253.2	256.6	↑ 3.4	1.3%	256.1	257.6	↑ 1.5	0.6%
Youth (15-24)	83.6	83.6	↔ 0.0	0.0%	81.3	78.9	↓ -2.4	-3.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Tables 282-0001, 282-0087

## Employment by Industry

Compared to March 2014, on an adjusted basis, the three industries with the largest volume employment gains in April 2014 were construction (+2,400); forestry, fishing, mining, oil & gas (+1,300); and professional, scientific and technical services (+1,200). The three industries with the largest employment losses were transportation & warehousing (-1,000); finance, insurance, real estate & leasing (-900); and public administration (-900).

### Saskatchewan Employment by Industry (Month-to-Month)



Note: sectors are sorted in descending order based on the levels of the monthly employment gains.

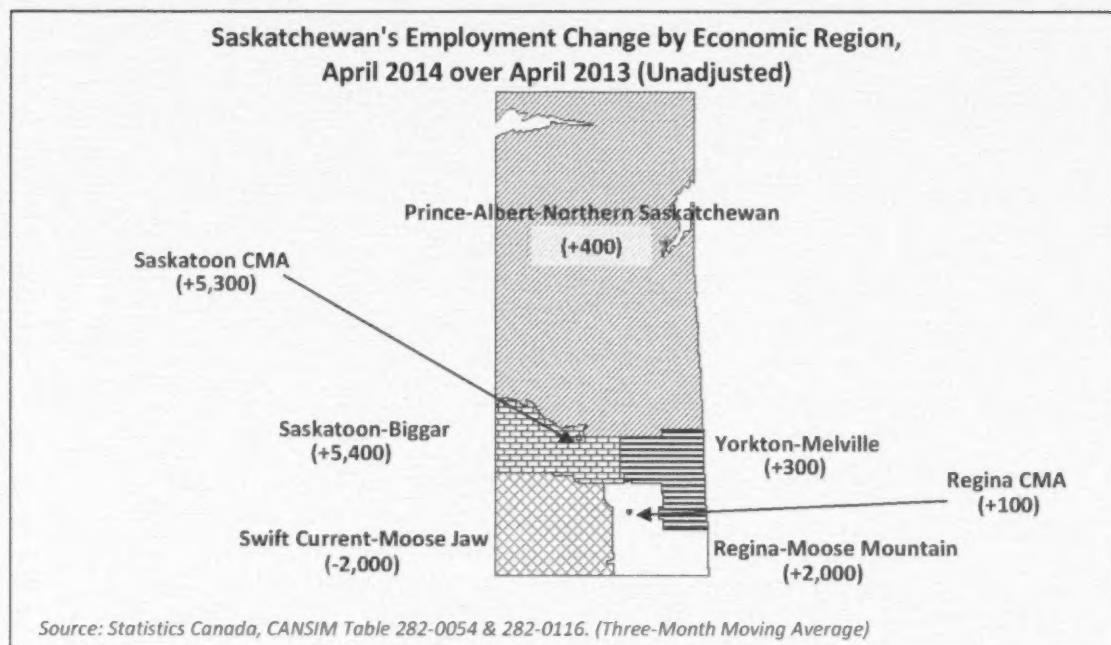
Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0088

Compared to April 2013, the three industries with the largest employment gains were construction (+5,500), agriculture (+3,700), and manufacturing (+3,700). The largest job losses took place in educational services (-5,000), other services (-4,600), and trade (wholesale and retail) (-2,400), compared to April 2013.

### Saskatchewan Employment by Industry (000's)

	April 2014 over April 2013 (Unadjusted)			
	Apr-13	Apr-14	-/+chg	%chg
Construction	43.7	49.2	↑ 5.5	12.6%
Agriculture	40.0	43.7	↑ 3.7	9.3%
Manufacturing	26.0	29.7	↑ 3.7	14.2%
Info., culture & rec.	16.1	18.9	↑ 2.8	17.4%
Resource Industries	22.2	24.9	↑ 2.7	12.2%
Transp., warehousing & Utilities	32.7	34.7	↑ 2.0	6.1%
Prof. scientific & tech. services	27.4	29.1	↑ 1.7	6.2%
Bus., building & support services	10.8	11.6	↑ 0.8	7.4%
Finance, insurance & real estate	29.0	29.7	↑ 0.7	2.4%
Accomm. & food services	32.7	32.8	↑ 0.1	0.3%
Public administration	30.5	29.2	↓ -1.3	-4.3%
Health care	74.8	73.1	↓ -1.7	-2.3%
Trade	85.3	82.9	↓ -2.4	-2.8%
Other services	27.0	22.4	↓ -4.6	-17.0%
Educational services	50.3	45.3	↓ -5.0	-9.9%
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>548.5</b>	<b>557.0</b>	<b>↑ 8.5</b>	<b>1.5%</b>

\*Other Services includes repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services, grant-making and services in private households.

Employment by Economic Region

Statistics Canada's LFS provides information on five economic regions in the province. In April 2014, employment was up in the Saskatoon - Biggar (+5,400), Regina - Moose Mountain (+2,000), Prince Albert & Northern SK (+400), and Yorkton - Melville (+300) regions. Employment levels decreased in the Swift Current - Moose Jaw region (-2,000), compared to April 2013.

In April 2014, for the two largest cities in the province, employment increased in the Regina Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) by 100 to 132,000 and increased in the Saskatoon CMA by 5,300 to 163,900, compared to April 2013 (a CMA includes the city and surrounding area).

**Employment (000's) by Economic Region (Three-Month Moving Average)**

	Year over Year (Unadjusted)			
	Apr-13	Apr-14	-/+chg	%chg
<b>Regina - Moose Mountain</b>	172.8	174.8	↑ 2.0	1.2%
Regina CMA	131.9	132.0	↑ 0.1	0.1%
<b>Swift Current - Moose Jaw</b>	53.3	51.3	↓ -2.0	-3.8%
<b>Saskatoon - Biggar</b>	187.1	192.5	↑ 5.4	2.9%
Saskatoon CMA	158.6	163.9	↑ 5.3	3.3%
<b>Yorkton - Melville</b>	38.7	39.0	↑ 0.3	0.8%
<b>Prince Albert &amp; Northern SK</b>	95.6	96.0	↑ 0.4	0.4%
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	548.5	557.0	↑ 8.5	1.5%

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Tables 282-0054, 282-0116

## Unemployment Rate

Saskatchewan's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate stood at 3.4% in April 2014, down from 4.5% in March 2014. The province had its lowest seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate ever recorded and was below the national rate of 6.9%.

### Saskatchewan's Monthly Unemployment Rate (%) (Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0087

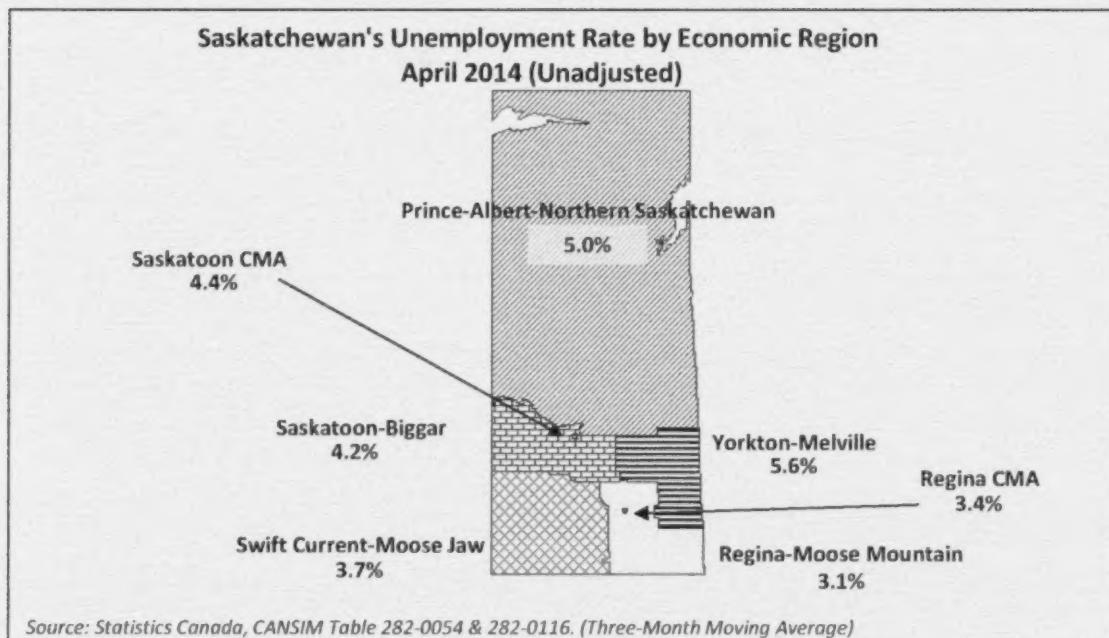
In April 2014, the unemployment rate in the Regina CMA decreased from 3.7% to 3.4%, and the Saskatoon CMA decreased from 4.6% to 4.4%, compared to March 2014. Regina CMA had the lowest unemployment rate and Saskatoon CMA had the second lowest unemployment rate among all CMAs.

### Top 10 Lowest Unemployment Rates (%) (Seasonally Adjusted, Three-Month Moving Average)

Rank	CMA	Mar-14	Apr-14	Percentage Point Change
1	Regina (SK)	3.7	3.4	-0.3
2	Saskatoon (SK)	4.6	4.4	-0.2
3	Québec (QC)	4.1	4.5	0.4
4	Edmonton (AB)	4.8	4.8	0.0
5	Victoria (BC)	5.2	5.1	-0.1
6	Calgary (AB)	5.0	5.3	0.3
6	Kelowna (BC)	5.5	5.3	-0.2
8	Winnipeg (MB)	5.6	5.7	0.1
8	Vancouver (BC)	5.9	5.7	-0.2
10	Thunder Bay (ON)	5.8	5.8	0.0

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 282-0116

In April 2014, the male unemployment rate was 3.5%, and the female unemployment rate was 3.1%, down from 4.0% and down from 5.0%, respectively, compared to March 2014. Saskatchewan's youth unemployment rate stood at 6.0% in April 2014, down 3.6 percentage points from March 2014, and was the lowest rate in Canada. The national average for youth unemployment rate was 13.4%.

Unemployment by Economic Region

In April 2014, compared to April 2013, the unemployment rate (three-month moving average) decreased in 3 economic regions: Regina - Moose Mountain region from 3.6% to 3.1%; Yorkton - Melville region from 6.1% to 5.6%; Prince Albert & Northern SK region from 5.7% to 5.0%. The unemployment rate increased in two economic regions: Swift Current - Moose Jaw region from 2.7% to 3.7%; Saskatoon - Biggar region from 3.7% to 4.2%.

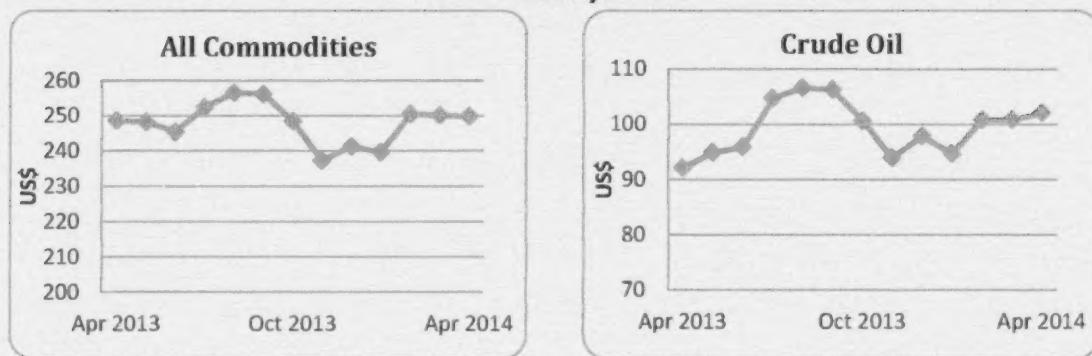
**Unemployment Rates (%) by Economic Region (Three-Month Moving Average)**

	Year over Year (Unadjusted)			
	Apr 2013	Apr 2014	Percentage Point Change	
Regina - Moose Mountain	3.6	3.1	↓	-0.5
Regina CMA	3.7	3.4	↓	-0.3
Swift Current - Moose Jaw	2.7	3.7	↑	1.0
Saskatoon - Biggar	3.7	4.2	↑	0.5
Saskatoon CMA	3.7	4.4	↑	0.7
Yorkton - Melville	6.1	5.6	↓	-0.5
Prince Albert & Northern SK	5.7	5.0	↓	-0.7

Regina and Saskatoon figures are unadjusted and different from table "Top 10 Lowest Unemployment Rates" to facilitate comparison.

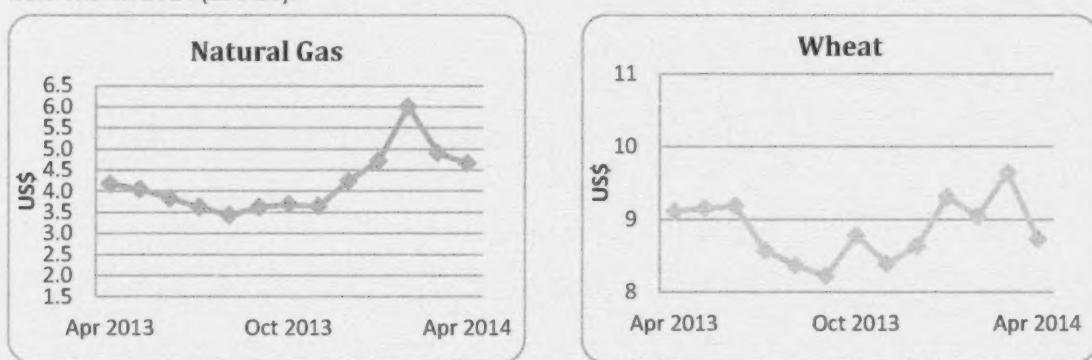
Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Tables 282-0054, 282-0116

## Commodity Prices



**All Commodities:** Overall, commodity prices slightly increased in April 2014, compared to April 2013. As measured by the BMO Capital Markets Commodity Price Index (BMCI), the overall BMCI (2003=100) averaged 249.90 in April 2014, up by 0.5% from April 2013 (248.70), and down 0.1% from March 2014 (250.20).

**Crude Oil:** Compared to April 2013, the price of crude oil was up by 10.9% to US\$102.07 per barrel (West Texas Intermediate, WTI) in April 2014, and up by 1.3% compared to March 2014 (US\$100.80).



**Natural Gas:** The Henry Hub price averaged US\$4.66 per million British thermal units (mmbtu) in April, up by 11.8% from April 2013, and down by 4.9% from March 2014 (US\$4.90).

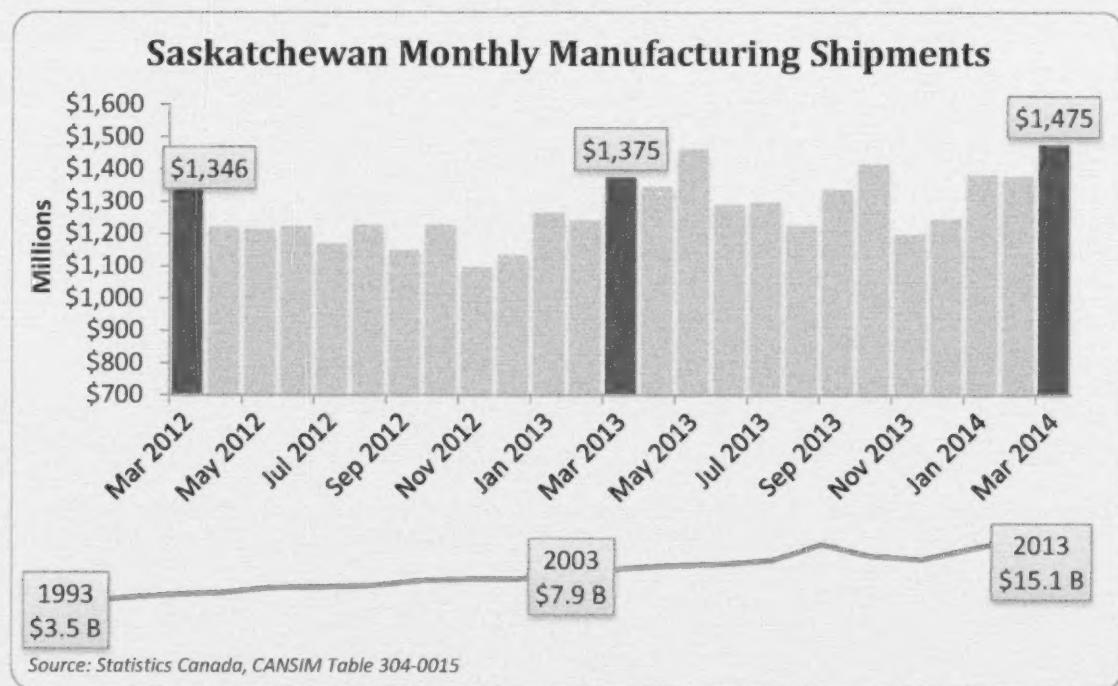
**Wheat:** The price of wheat in April 2014 was US\$8.73 per bushel, down by 4.2% from the April 2013 average (US\$9.11) and down by 9.4% from March 2014 (US\$9.64).

### BMO's Commodity Price Indices

	Year over Year				Year-to-date			
	Apr 2013	Apr 2014	-/+chg	%chg	Jan-Apr 2013	Jan-Apr 2014	-/+chg	%chg
All Commodities (US\$:2003=100)	248.70	249.90	↑ 1.2	0.5%	255.55	247.55	↓ -8.0	-3.1%
Crude Oil (US\$/bbl)	92.07	102.07	↑ 10.0	10.9%	93.76	99.58	↑ 5.8	6.2%
Natural Gas (US\$/mmbtu)	4.17	4.66	↑ 0.5	11.8%	3.67	5.07	↑ 1.4	38.3%
Lumber (US\$/mbf)	381.00	338.00	↓ -43.0	-11.3%	388.25	359.50	↓ -28.8	-7.4%
Copper (US\$/lb)	3.27	3.03	↓ -0.2	-7.3%	3.52	3.15	↓ -0.4	-10.4%
Zinc (US\$/lb)	0.84	0.92	↑ 0.1	9.5%	0.90	0.92	↑ 0.0	1.7%
Gold (US\$/oz)	1,486.00	1,299.00	↓ -187.0	-12.6%	1,595.00	1,294.50	↓ -300.5	-18.8%
Silver (US\$/oz)	25.21	19.71	↓ -5.5	-21.8%	28.86	20.30	↓ -8.6	-29.7%
Wheat (US\$/bushel)	9.11	8.73	↓ -0.4	-4.2%	9.27	9.18	↓ -0.1	-0.9%
Cattle (US\$/cwt)	125.00	149.00	↑ 24.0	19.2%	124.75	144.75	↑ 20.0	16.0%

Source: BMO Capital Markets Economics

## Production and Exports



### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

In March 2014, manufacturing shipments in Saskatchewan were up by 7.3%, to \$1.5B, compared to March 2013 (\$1.4B). In this period, Saskatchewan ranked fourth in terms of percentage change among the provinces.

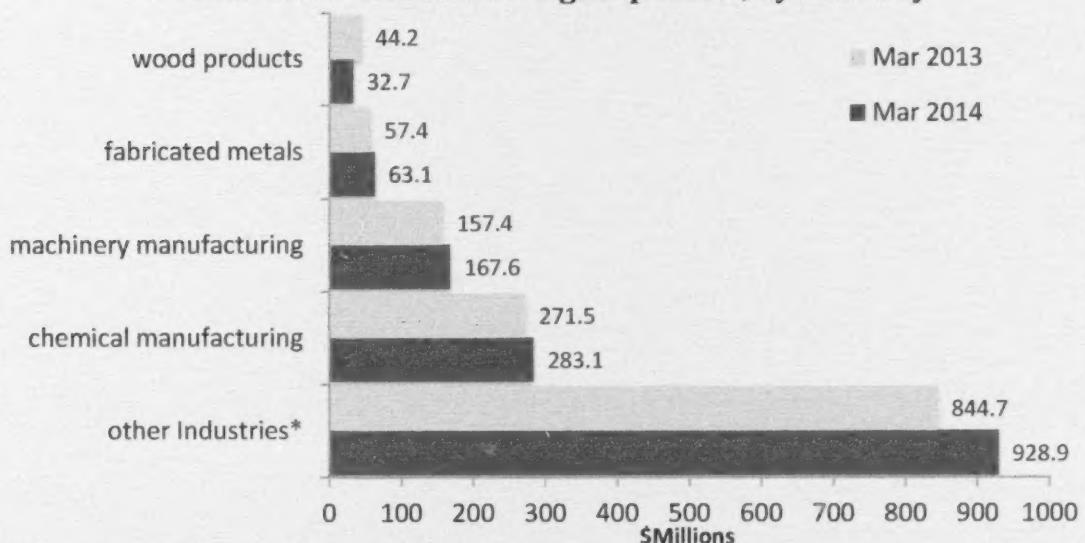
Among the other western provinces, manufacturing shipments increased in B.C. (+0.2%), Alberta (+13.6%), and Manitoba (+7.5%). Nationally, shipments increased by 6.1% over the same time period.

### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, the value of manufacturing shipments in Saskatchewan totalled \$4.2B, an increase of 9.2% compared to the same period in 2013. Saskatchewan ranked second among the provinces in terms of percentage change.

In this period, the value of shipments was up in Manitoba (+3.8%), B.C. (+3.1%) and Alberta (+9.7%). At the national level, total manufacturing shipments were \$147.0B in the first three months of 2014, up by 4.0% from the same period in 2013.

### Saskatchewan Manufacturing Shipments, by Industry



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 304-0015

#### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

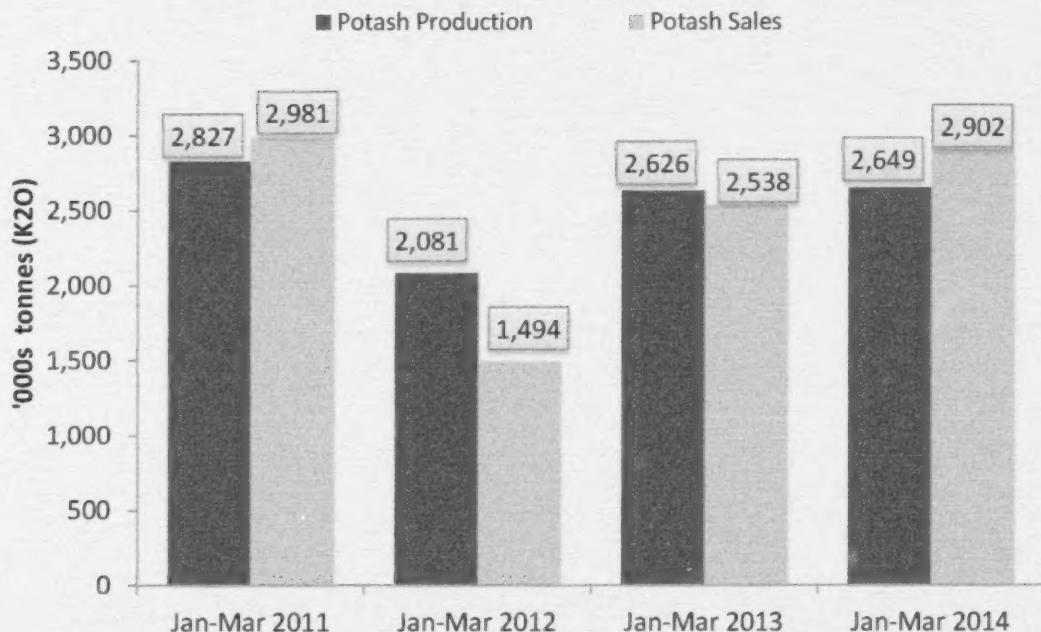
Comparing the value of shipments among Saskatchewan's manufacturing industries in March 2014 to the same month in 2013, sectors with increases included other industries\* (+\$84.2M), chemical manufacturing (+\$11.6M), machinery manufacturing (+\$10.2M) and fabricated metals (+\$5.7M). The only decrease was observed in wood products (-\$11.5M), compared to the same month last year.

#### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, sectors with increases included other industries\* (+\$323.5M), chemical manufacturing (+\$27.4M), machinery manufacturing (+\$22.8M), and fabricated metals (+\$7.2M). A decrease in manufacturing shipments was observed in wood products (-\$23.7M), compared to the same period in 2013.

Note: \* Other industries include seventeen sub-sectors: food, beverage and tobacco, textile mills, textile product mills, clothing, leather and allied product, paper products, printing and related support activities, petroleum and coal products, plastics and rubber products, non-metallic minerals, primary metal, computer and electronics, electrical equipments, transportation equipment, furniture and related products, and miscellaneous manufacturing. The status of the sixteen sub-sectors cannot be shown due to lack of data (suppressed for confidentiality or other reasons). Statistics Canada changed its reported sectors for manufacturing shipments starting with the May 2014 release.

## Saskatchewan's Potash Production and Sales



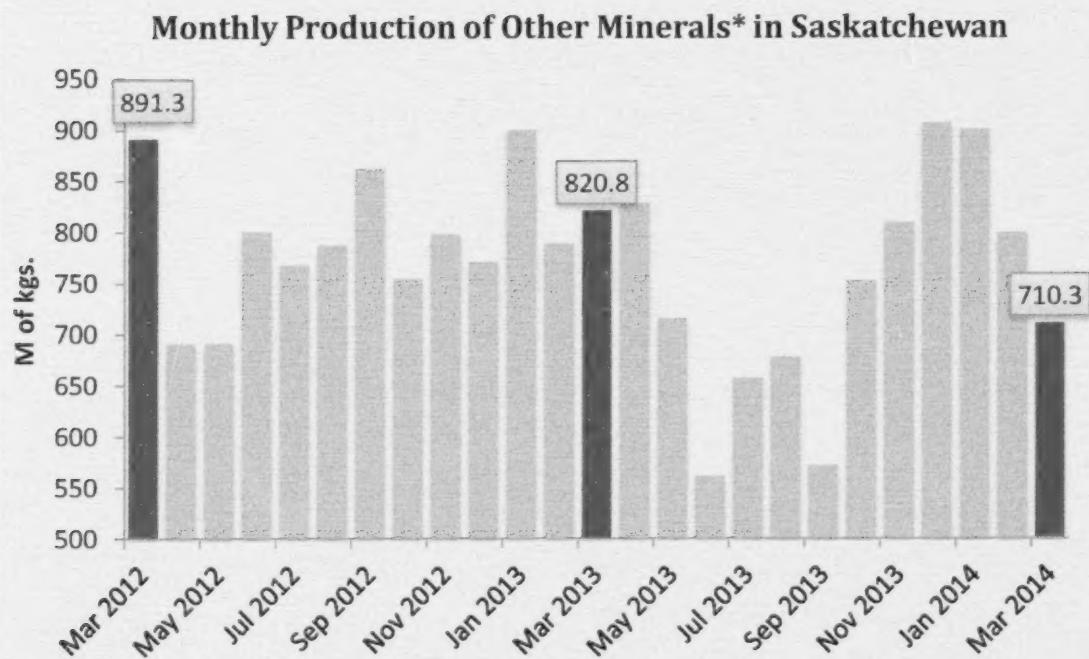
Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy, Minerals, Lands and Resource Policy Division

### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

In March 2014, compared to March 2013, Saskatchewan's potash production decreased by 12.4%, to 0.96M tonnes K2O. Potash sales decreased by 0.3% to 1.1M tonnes K2O, during the same period.

### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, the province's potash production increased by 0.9% to 2.6M tonnes K2O, while sales were up by 14.3% to 2.9M tonnes K2O, compared to the same period in 2013.



Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy, Minerals, Lands and Resource Policy Division

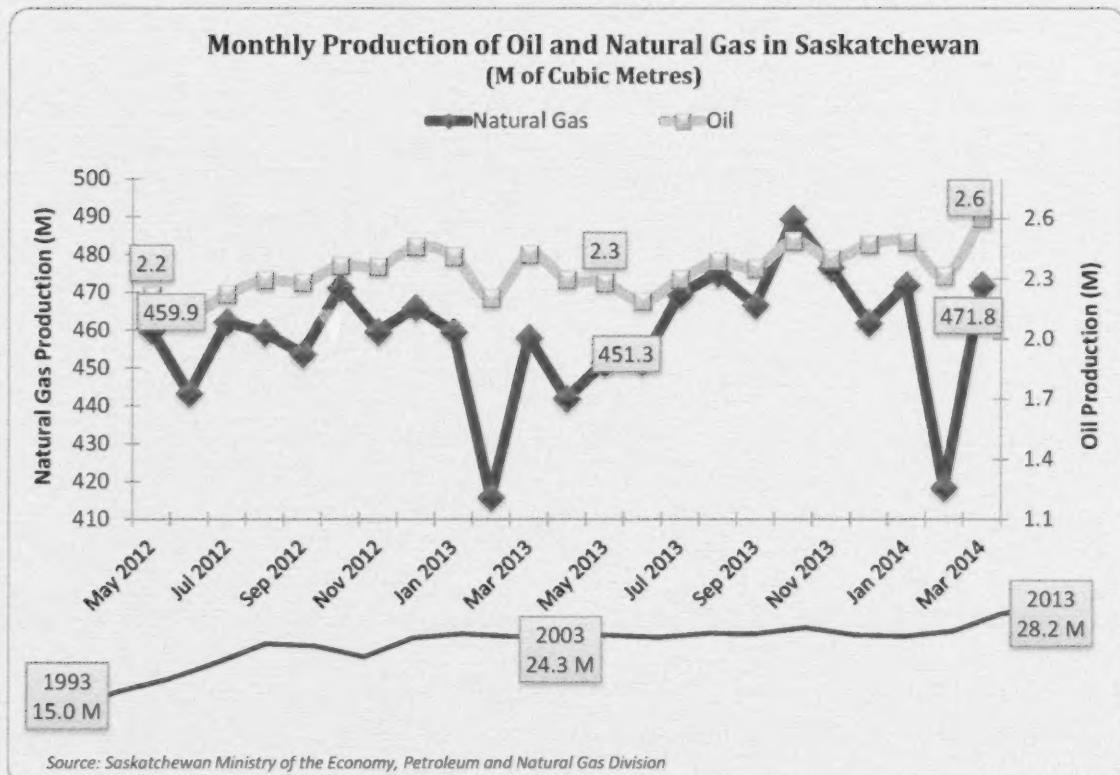
**Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):**

In March 2014, compared to March 2013, production of other minerals in Saskatchewan decreased by 13.5% to 710.3M kilograms.

**Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):**

In the first three months of 2014, other minerals production in Saskatchewan decreased by 4.0%, to 2.4B kilograms, compared to the same period in 2013.

\*Other minerals include uranium, base metals, bentonite, coal, gold, and sodium sulphate (and exclude potash and salt).



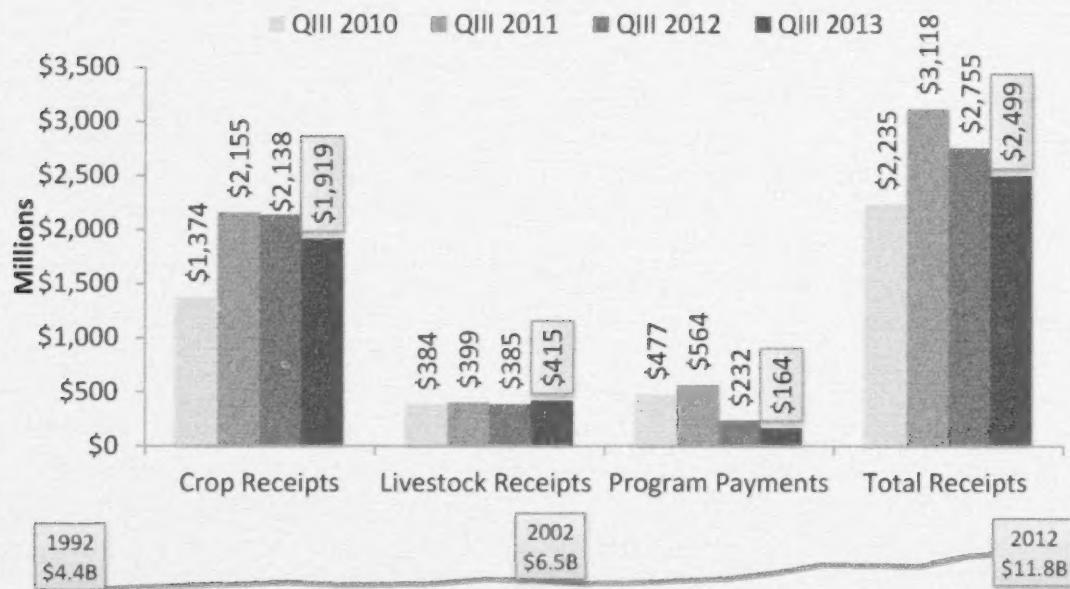
#### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

In March 2014, oil production in Saskatchewan increased by 7.4% to 2.6M cubic metres, while natural gas production increased by 3.0% to 471.8M cubic metres, compared to March 2013.

#### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, production of oil increased by 5.2% to 7.4M cubic metres, while production of natural gas in Saskatchewan increased by 2.2% to 1.4M cubic metres, compared to the same period in 2013.

## Saskatchewan Farm Cash Receipts



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 002-0002

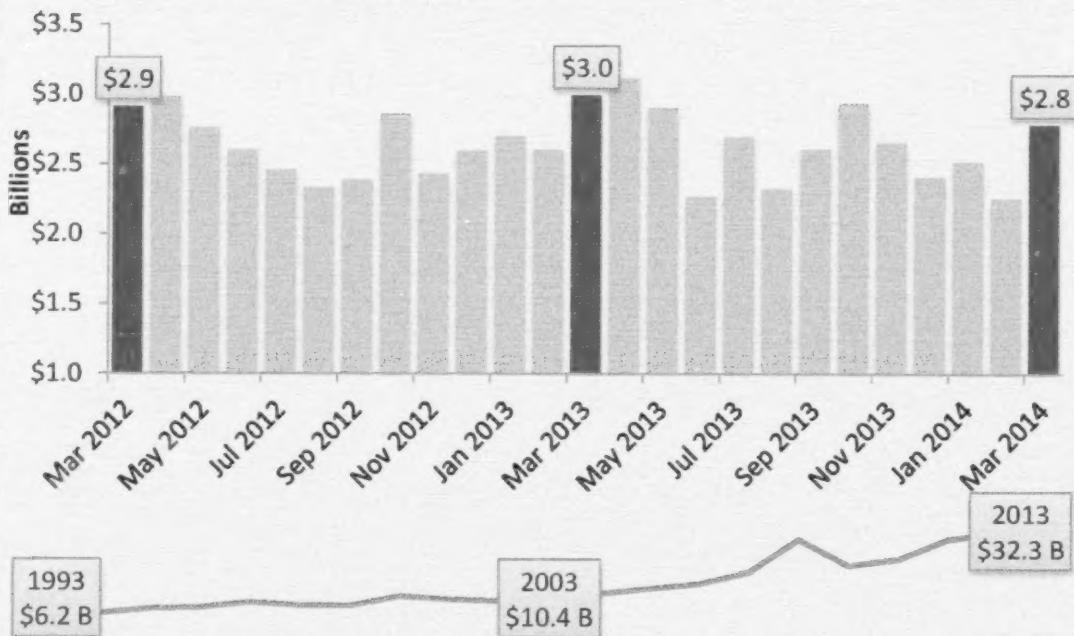
### Third Quarter 2013 vs. Third Quarter 2012:

In the third quarter (July-September) of 2013, farm cash receipts in Saskatchewan decreased by 9.3% to \$2.5B, compared to the same period in 2012. Saskatchewan ranked tenth in terms of percentage change among the provinces. During this period, crop receipts decreased by 10.2% or \$219.0M to \$1.9B, livestock receipts increased by 8.0% or \$30.7M to \$415.4M, and program payments were down by 29.1% or \$67.4M to \$164.4M in the third quarter of 2013, compared to the same period in 2012.

### Year to date (January to September 2013 vs. January to September 2012):

In the first nine months of 2013, farm cash receipts in Saskatchewan increased by 7.3% to \$8.6B, compared to the same period in 2012. This percentage increase ranked fifth among the provinces. Crop receipts were up by 13.8% or \$841.7M to \$6.9B, while livestock receipts were up by 5.8%, or \$62.6M, to \$1.1B. Program payments decreased by 36.5% or \$320.7M to \$558.9M, compared to the same period in 2012.

## Saskatchewan's Monthly International Exports of Goods



### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

In March 2014, Saskatchewan's international exports of goods decreased by 7.0%, to \$2.8B, down from \$3.0 B in March 2013. Comparing March 2014 with March 2013, Saskatchewan ranked eighth in terms of percentage change among the provinces.

International exports of goods increased in Manitoba (+14.5%) and Alberta (+18.5%), and decreased in B.C. (-9.9%). For Canada as a whole, exports were up by 9.4% to \$44.6B in March 2014, compared to March 2013.

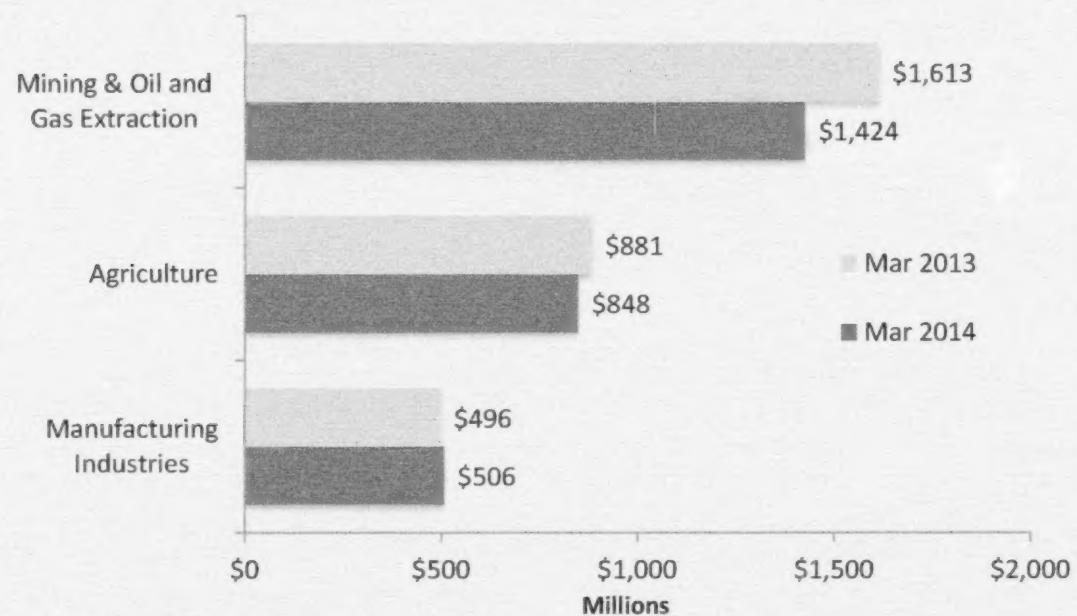
### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, Saskatchewan's international exports of goods decreased by 8.9%, to \$7.6B, compared to the same period in 2013 (\$8.3B). Saskatchewan had the tenth-highest growth rate among the provinces.

The value of exports in the first three months of 2014 was up in Alberta (+15.9%), B.C. (+3.6%), and Manitoba (+7.1%). At the national level, total exports were up by 7.4% to \$123.3B, compared to the same period in 2013.

**Note:** The export statistics include all goods leaving the province for a foreign destination and consist of the sum of domestic exports and re-exports. Domestic exports consist of the exports of all goods produced or manufactured in the province while re-exports refer to the export of goods that have previously entered the province and are leaving in the same condition or minimally processed.

## Saskatchewan's International Exports of Goods, by Industry



Source: Statistics Canada, Industry Canada, Trade Data Online

### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

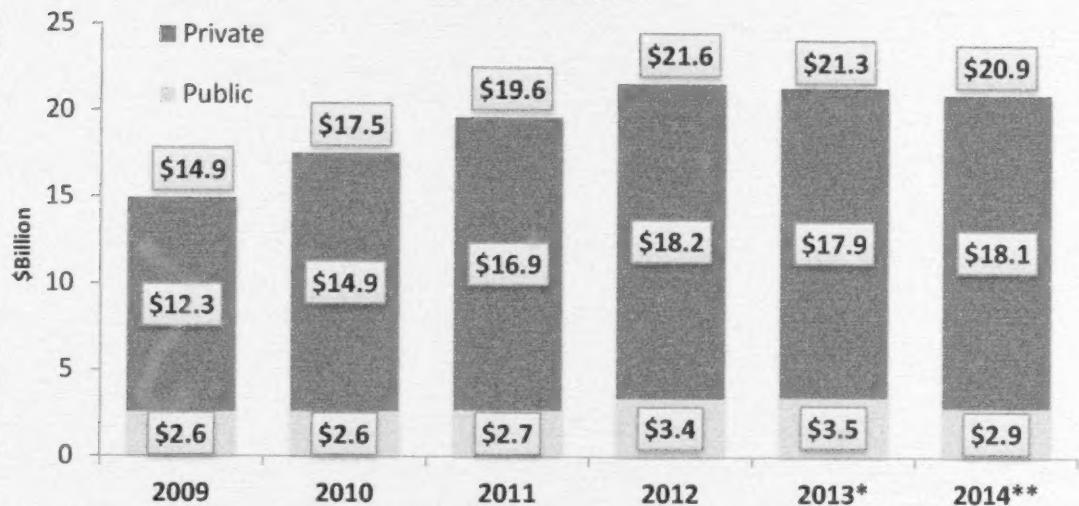
In March 2014, compared to March 2013, international exports in the mining and oil and gas extraction sector decreased by \$188.2M to \$1.4B, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting decreased by \$33.1M to \$847.6M, and manufacturing sector exports increased by \$10.2M to \$506.4M. Within the manufacturing sector, the largest year-over-year increase in exports was in chemical products manufacturing (+\$33.3M), while primary metals manufacturing had the largest decrease (-\$28.3M) in exports.

### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, mining and oil and gas extraction exports decreased by 13.6% or \$611.4M to \$3.9B, manufacturing exports decreased by 6.1% or \$89.3M to \$1.4B, and exports by agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industries decreased by 1.9% or \$43.0M to \$2.3B. Within the manufacturing sector, food manufacturing had the largest increase (+\$30.5M) in exports, while primary metals had the largest decrease (-\$108.5M).

## Investment and Construction

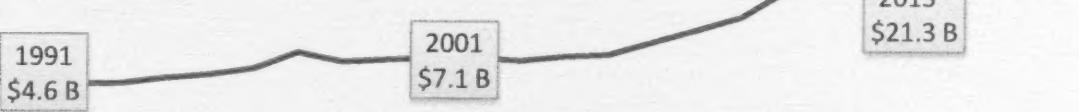
### Saskatchewan Private and Public New Capital Investment



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 029-0005

\* Preliminary

\*\* Intentions



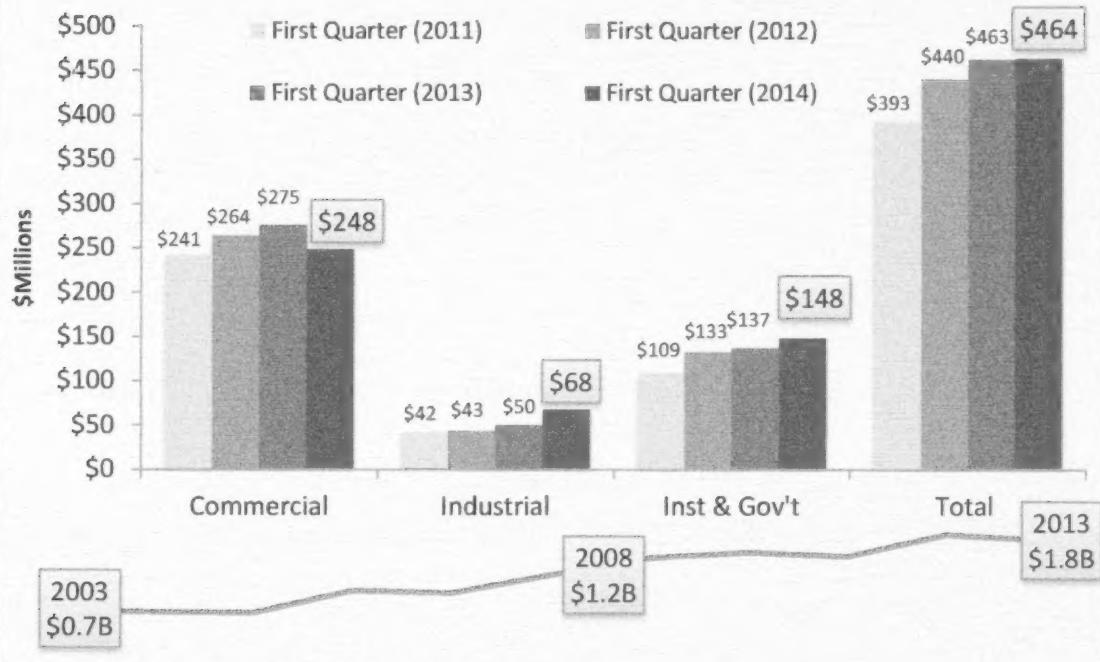
According to Statistics Canada figures released in February 2014, new capital spending by private and public organizations in Saskatchewan totalled \$21.6B in 2012. The private sector accounted for \$18.2B or 84.3%, and the public sector contributed \$3.4B or 15.7% of the total expenditures.

In 2013, capital investment in Saskatchewan decreased by 1.2%, to \$21.3B, compared to 2012. The private sector accounted for about \$17.9B or 83.8%, and the public sector contributed \$3.5B or 16.2% of the total private and public investment expenditures.

For 2014, capital investment in Saskatchewan is expected to reach \$20.9B. The private sector is expected to account for about \$18.1B or 86.3% and the public sector is projected to contribute \$2.9B or 13.7% of the total expenditures in 2014. The 2014 private and public capital expenditure intentions would be the seventh consecutive year in which new capital spending exceeded the \$14B mark, if actual investment meets investment intentions.

Note: Revised figures for 2013 and preliminary estimate for 2014 and investment intentions for 2015 will be available in February 2015.

## Saskatchewan Investment in Non-Residential Construction



### First Quarter of 2014 vs. First Quarter of 2013:

In the first quarter of 2014, investment in non-residential construction in Saskatchewan totalled \$464.1M, up by 0.3%, compared to \$462.9M in the first quarter of 2013. Saskatchewan ranked sixth among the provinces in terms of percentage change.

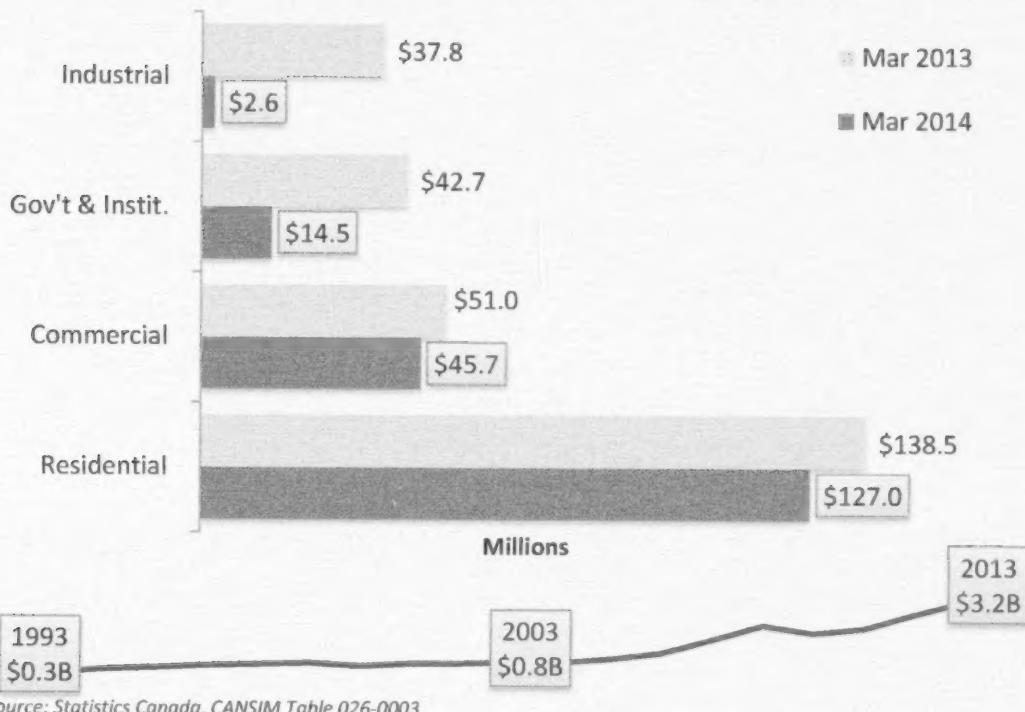
Manitoba was up 6.2% and Alberta up 7.7% in the first quarter of 2014, compared to the first quarter of 2013. B.C. was down by 8.9% over the same period. Five of the 10 provinces saw increases in this period and the national average was down by 0.7%.

### Annual Total (2013 vs. 2012):

In 2013, investment in non-residential construction in Saskatchewan totalled \$1.79B, a decrease of 4.5%, compared to 2012. This ranked seventh in terms of percentage change among the provinces.

Manitoba increased 16.2%, Alberta increased by 3.8%, and B.C. was up 4.5% in 2013, compared to 2012. Nationally, investment in non-residential construction increased by 1.9% during this period.

## Saskatchewan's Building Permits



### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

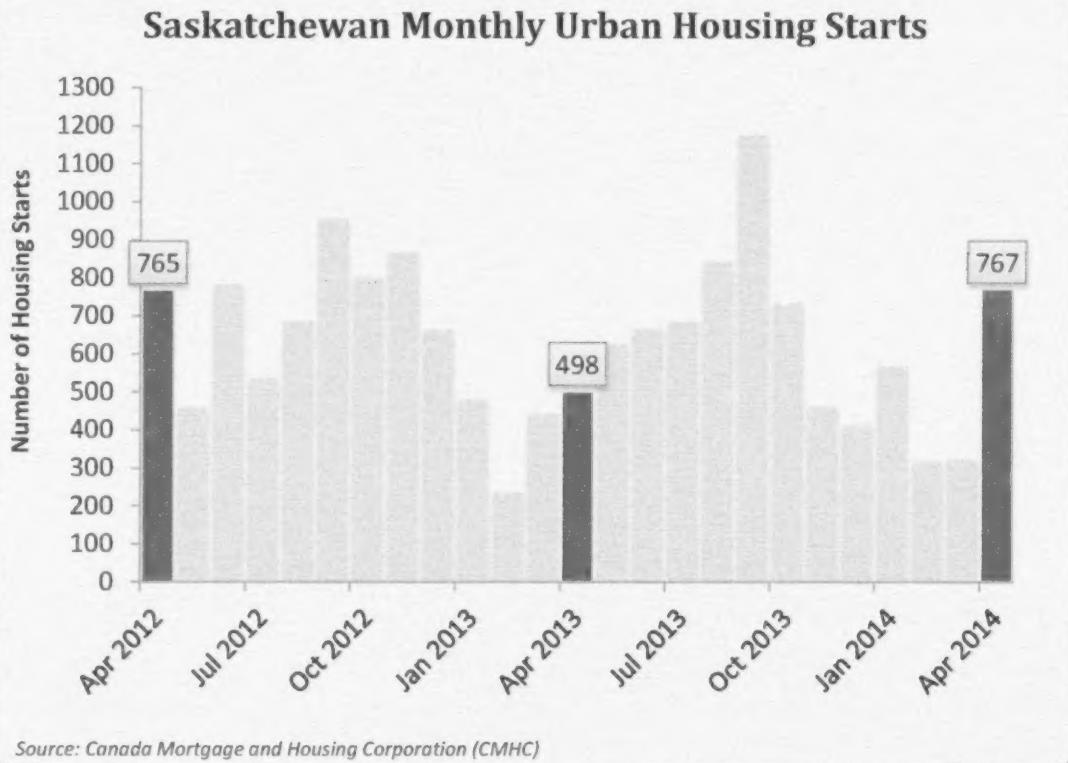
The value of building permits issued in Saskatchewan totalled \$189.9M in March 2014, down by 29.7%, compared to \$270.0M in March 2013. Saskatchewan ranked ninth in terms of growth rate among the provinces.

The value of building permits in the Regina CMA decreased by 49.5% from \$79.5M to \$40.2M, and the Saskatoon CMA saw a decrease of 33.6%, from \$151.4M to \$100.6M in March 2014, compared to March 2013. In the area of the province outside the two CMAs, the value of building permits increased by 25.9% from \$39.0M to \$49.1M.

### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, the value of building permits issued in Saskatchewan totalled \$493.5M, a decrease of 17.0%, compared to the same period of 2013. Saskatchewan ranked ninth in terms of percentage change among the provinces.

The value of building permits issued in the first three months of 2014 decreased in the industrial sector (-\$53.7M), the government and institutional sector (-\$50.1M) and the residential sector (-\$22.5M) compared to the same period in 2013. An increase was observed in the commercial sector (+\$25.3M) during the same period.



#### Year-over-year (April 2014 vs. April 2013):

The number of housing starts in Saskatchewan's urban centres increased by 54.0%, to 269 in April 2014, over April 2013. Manitoba was down 7.4%, Alberta was up 5.6%, and B.C. was up 8.9%. Five of the 10 provinces posted decreases in urban housing starts in April 2014, compared to April 2013. The national average was up by 12.5% during this period. Saskatchewan's percentage change ranked first among the provinces.

Single-family dwellings increased from 281 units to 295 units (+5.0%), while multiple housing units increased by 117.5% to 472 units in March 2014, compared to March 2013.

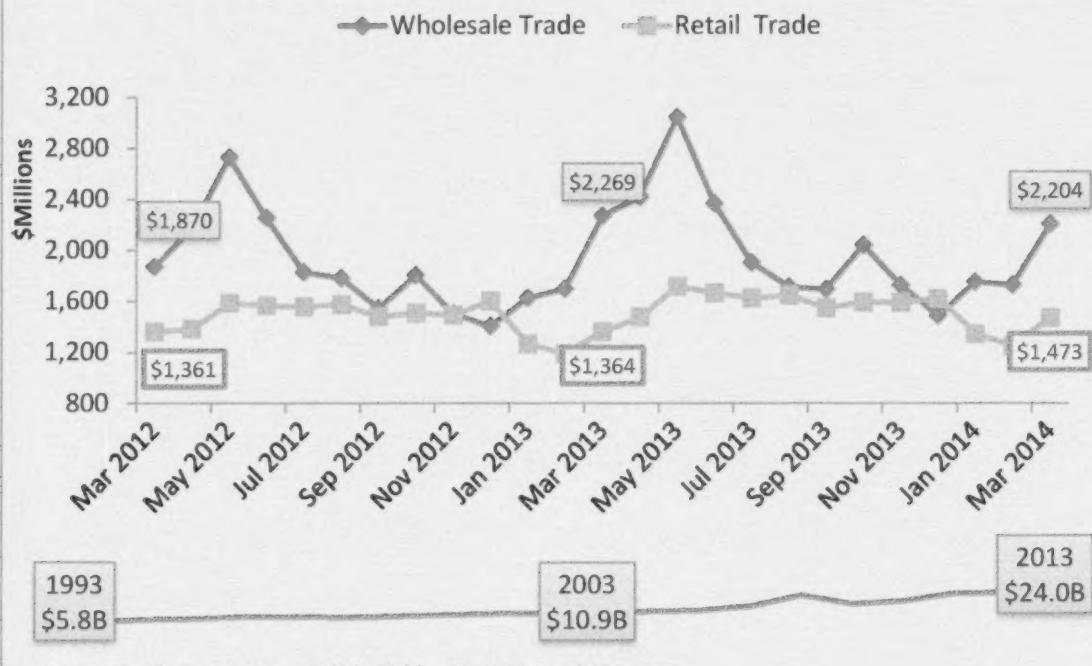
New home building in the Regina CMA decreased from 253 units, to 127 units in April 2014, while the Saskatoon CMA increased by 235.9%, from 167 units to 561 units, compared to April 2013. In other centres of the province outside the two CMAs, housing starts were up by 1.3% from 78 units in April last year to 79 units in April this year.

#### Year-to-date (January to April 2014 vs. January to April 2013):

In the first four months of 2014, urban housing starts in Saskatchewan increased by 19.3% to 1,973 units, compared to the same period in 2013 (1,654). The national average was up by 5.6%. In the first four months of 2014, housing starts were down by 41.3% in the Regina CMA and up by 83.7% in the Saskatoon CMA.

## Other Indicators

### Wholesale Trade and Retail Sales in Saskatchewan



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Tables 080-0011 and 081-0020

#### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

On a year-over-year basis, retail sales in Saskatchewan for March 2014 were up by 8.0% to \$1.5B, compared to March 2013 (\$1.4B). In terms of percentage change, Saskatchewan ranked second among the provinces. Five of the 10 provinces had increases in this period, with Alberta up by 9.4%, B.C. up by 2.2%, and Manitoba up by 4.3%. Nationally, retail sales increased by 2.6% in this period.

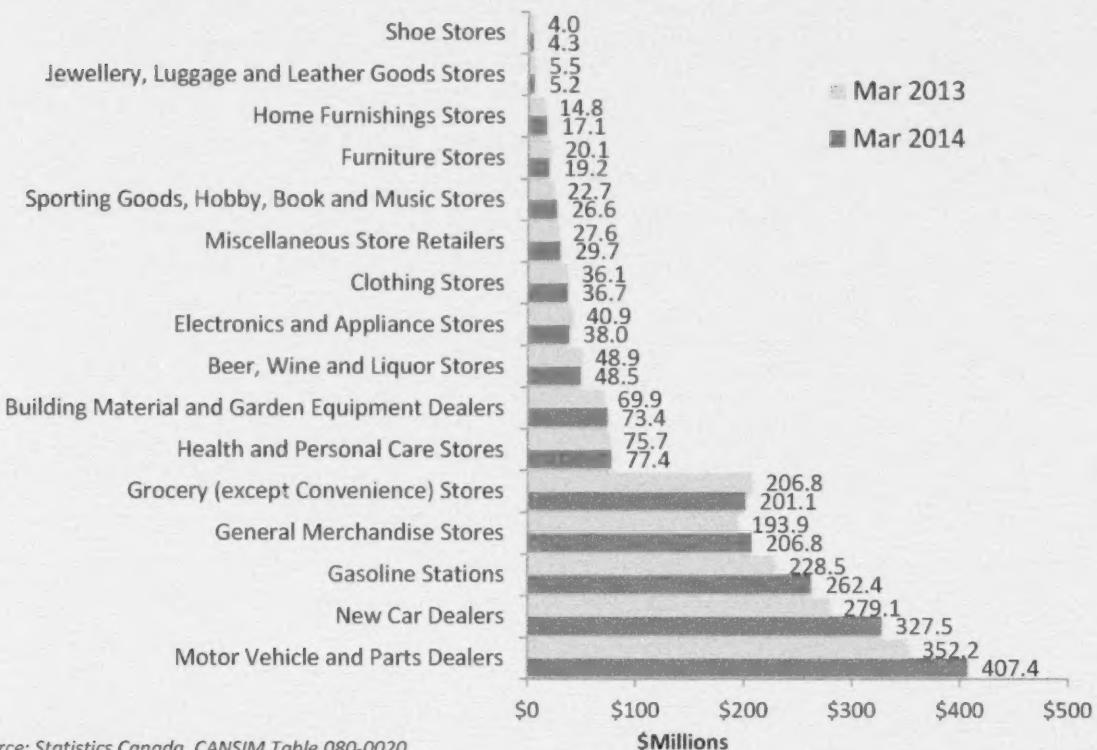
Wholesale trade in Saskatchewan decreased by 2.8%, to \$2.2B in March 2014, compared to March 2013 (\$2.3B). In terms of percentage change, this ranked ninth among the provinces.

#### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, retail sales in Saskatchewan were up by 6.5% to \$4.1B, compared to the same period in 2013. In percentage terms, Saskatchewan ranked second among the provinces. During the same period, retail sales were up by 3.9% in Manitoba, up by 9.6% in Alberta, and up by 3.4% in B.C., with an increase of 3.8% nationally.

In the first three months of 2014, wholesale trade in Saskatchewan totalled \$5.7B, an increase of 1.6%, compared to the same period in 2013. In terms of percentage change, this ranked eighth among the provinces.

## Monthly Retail Sales in Saskatchewan, by Store Type



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 080-0020

### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

Among retail outlets, motor vehicle and parts dealers had the largest increase in retail sales in March 2014 at \$55.2M, followed by new car dealers at \$48.4M, gasoline stations at \$34.0M, general merchandise stores at \$12.9M, sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores at \$3.9M, building material and garden equipment at \$3.6M, home furnishings stores at \$2.3M, miscellaneous stores at \$2.2M, health and personal care stores at \$1.7M, clothing stores at \$0.6M, and shoe stores at \$0.3M, compared to March 2013.

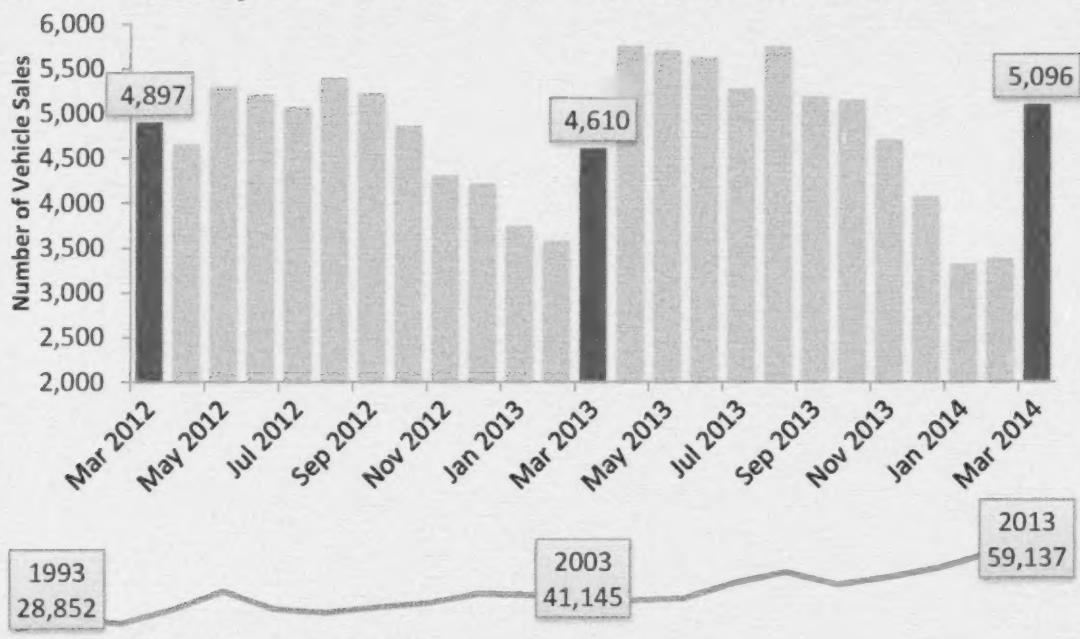
In March 2014, grocery (except convenience) stores (-\$5.7M), electronics and appliance stores (-\$2.9M), furniture stores (-\$1.0M), beer, wine and liquor stores (-\$0.4M), and jewellery, luggage and leather goods stores (-\$0.3M), witnessed declines, compared to March 2013.

### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, gasoline stations had the largest increase in retail sales at \$98.6M, followed by motor vehicle and parts dealers at \$74.1M, new car dealers at \$58.9M, general merchandise stores at \$47.4M, health and personal care stores at \$9.9M, sporting goods, hobby, book and music stores at \$5.9M, miscellaneous store retailers at \$4.2M, grocery (except convenience) stores at \$3.8M, and beer, wine and liquor stores at \$3.1M, compared to the same period in 2013.

Retail sales at electronics and appliance stores (-\$6.5M), clothing stores (-\$2.3M), and furniture stores (-\$1.0M) saw decreases in the first three months of 2014, compared to the same period in 2013.

## Monthly Sales of New Motor Vehicles in Saskatchewan



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 079-0003.

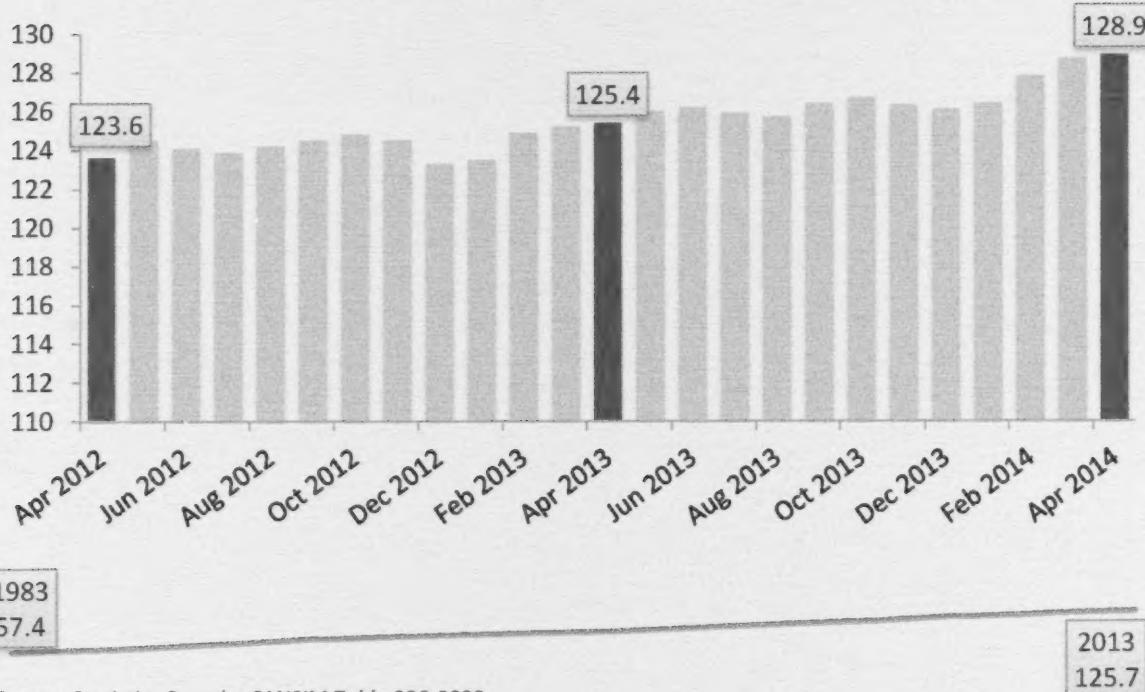
### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

On a seasonally-unadjusted basis, new motor vehicle sales in Saskatchewan increased by 10.5% in March 2014, to 5,096 units, compared to 4,610 in March 2013. New motor vehicle sales were up in six of the 10 provinces in this period, with Alberta up by 5.0%, Manitoba up by 3.7%, and B.C. up by 1.9%. Nationally, new motor vehicle sales slightly increased by 16 units. Saskatchewan ranked first among the provinces in terms of percentage change.

### Year to date (January to March 2014 vs. January to March 2013):

New motor vehicle sales in Saskatchewan decreased by 1.2% to 11,795 units in the first three months of 2014, compared to the same period in 2013. In this period, Saskatchewan was sixth among the provinces in terms of percentage change. During the same period, new motor vehicle sales were down by 0.3% in Alberta, down by 0.5% in B.C., and down by 0.7% in Manitoba. The national average was up by 0.4%.

## Consumer Price Index in Saskatchewan (2002=100)



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 326-0020

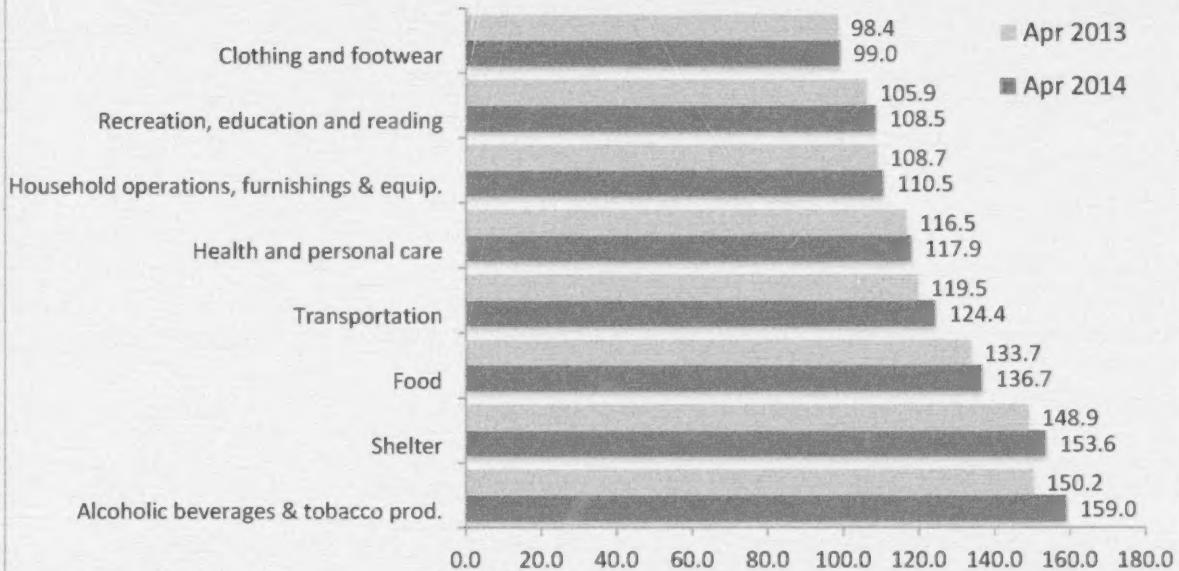
### Year-over-year (April 2014 vs. April 2013):

Saskatchewan's Consumer Price Index (CPI), a measure of inflation, increased by 2.8% in April 2014, from 125.4 to 128.9, compared to April 2013. For other western provinces, CPI increased in Manitoba (+2.3%), Alberta (+2.7%), and B.C. (+1.5%). The national average increased by 1.5%, during the same period. CPI increased in the Regina CMA by 2.7%, to 129.9, while the Saskatoon CMA witnessed an increase of 2.6%, to 128.6 during this period.

### Year-to-date (January to April 2014 vs. January to April 2013):

In the first four months of 2014, Saskatchewan's CPI increased by 2.6%, on average, compared to the same period in 2013. For other western provinces, CPI increased in Manitoba (+2.8%), Alberta (+3.8%), and B.C. (+0.3%). The national average increased by 1.6%, during the same period. CPI increased in the Regina CMA by 2.5%, while the Saskatoon CMA witnessed an increase of 2.4% during this period.

## Consumer Price Index in Saskatchewan (2002=100) (by Selected Sub-Groups)



Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 326-0020

### Year-over-year (April 2014 vs. April 2013):

In April 2014, the Saskatchewan All-items CPI increased by 2.8%, compared to April 2013. The province's CPI increased in all eight commodity categories during the same period. Increases were observed in alcoholic beverages and tobacco products (+5.9%), transportation (+4.1%), shelter (+3.2%), recreation, education and reading (+2.5%), food (+2.2%), household operations, furnishings and equipment (+1.7%), health and personal care (+1.2%), and clothing and footwear (+0.6%).

### Year-to-date (January to April 2014 vs. January to April 2013):

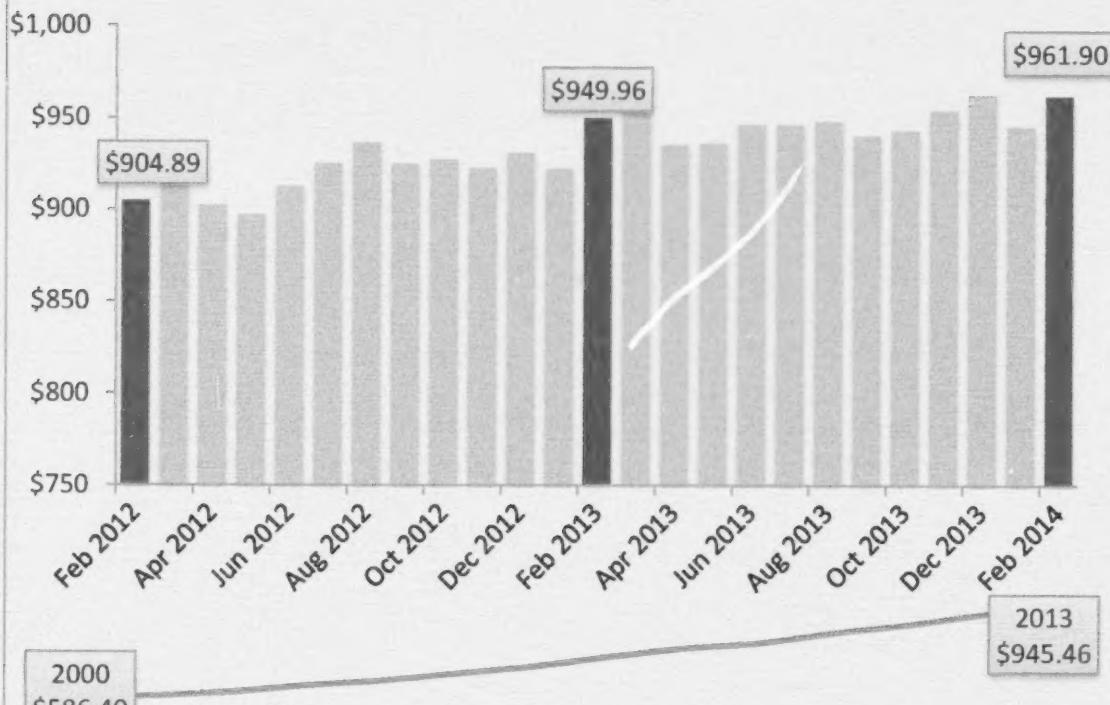
In the first four months of 2014, Saskatchewan's CPI increased in all eight commodity categories compared to the same period in 2013. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products posted the largest increase (+7.0%) while clothing and footwear (+0.9%) posted the least increase in the first four months of 2014, compared to the same period in 2013.

### **Saskatchewan Consumer Price Index (CPI) (2002=100), by Selected Sub-Groups**

2002=100	Year over Year				Year-to-Date			
	Apr 2013	Apr 2014	-/+chg	%chg	Apr 2013	Apr 2014	-/+chg	%chg
<b>All Items</b>	<b>125.4</b>	<b>128.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>124.8</b>	<b>128.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
Food	133.7	136.7	3	2.2%	132.8	136.4	3.6	2.7%
Shelter	148.9	153.6	4.7	3.2%	148.5	153.1	4.6	3.1%
Household operations, furnishings & equip.	108.7	110.5	1.8	1.7%	108.5	109.8	1.4	1.2%
Clothing and footwear	98.4	99.0	0.6	0.6%	96.9	97.7	0.8	0.9%
Transportation	119.5	124.4	4.9	4.1%	118.9	122.5	3.6	3.0%
Health and personal care	116.5	117.9	1.4	1.2%	115.8	117.2	1.3	1.1%
Recreation, education and reading	105.9	108.5	2.6	2.5%	105.6	108.2	2.6	2.4%
Alcoholic beverages & tobacco prod.	150.2	159.0	8.8	5.9%	146.6	156.8	10.3	7.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 326-0020

## Average Weekly Earnings (Including Overtime) in Saskatchewan



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 281-0026

### Year-over-year (February 2014 vs. February 2013):

Saskatchewan's average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all industries in February 2014 increased by 1.3%, or \$11.94, to \$961.90, compared to February 2013. This ranked tenth in terms of percentage increase among the provinces. The national average earnings increased by 2.3%, or \$21.12, to \$932.27 during the same month.

Saskatchewan's CPI increased by 2.3% in February 2014, compared to February 2013. The Canadian CPI increased by 1.1% during the same month.

### Year to date (January to February 2014 vs. January to February 2013):

In the first two months of 2014, average weekly earnings for all Saskatchewan industries increased by 1.9%, or \$17.56, to \$953.56, compared to the same period in 2013. This was the eighth-highest percentage increase among the provinces. Canada's aggregate average weekly earnings increased by 2.4%, or \$21.47, to \$926.05.

In the first two months of 2014, Saskatchewan's CPI increased by 2.3%, on average, compared to the same period in 2013. The Canadian CPI increased by 1.3% during this period.

## Average Weekly Earnings (Including Overtime) by Industry in Saskatchewan



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 281-0026

### Year-over-year (February 2014 vs. February 2013):

Average weekly earnings (including overtime) increased in 11 of the 22 industry groups (with three industries not reporting results) in Saskatchewan. The largest increases were observed in mining (except oil and gas) at \$317.11, management of companies at \$107.91, finance and insurance at \$92.15, wholesale trade at \$84.91, construction at \$59.79, manufacturing at \$55.17, public administration at \$32.24, other services at \$28.68, information and cultural industries at \$27.80, arts, entertainment and recreation at \$16.34, and retail trade at \$12.54.

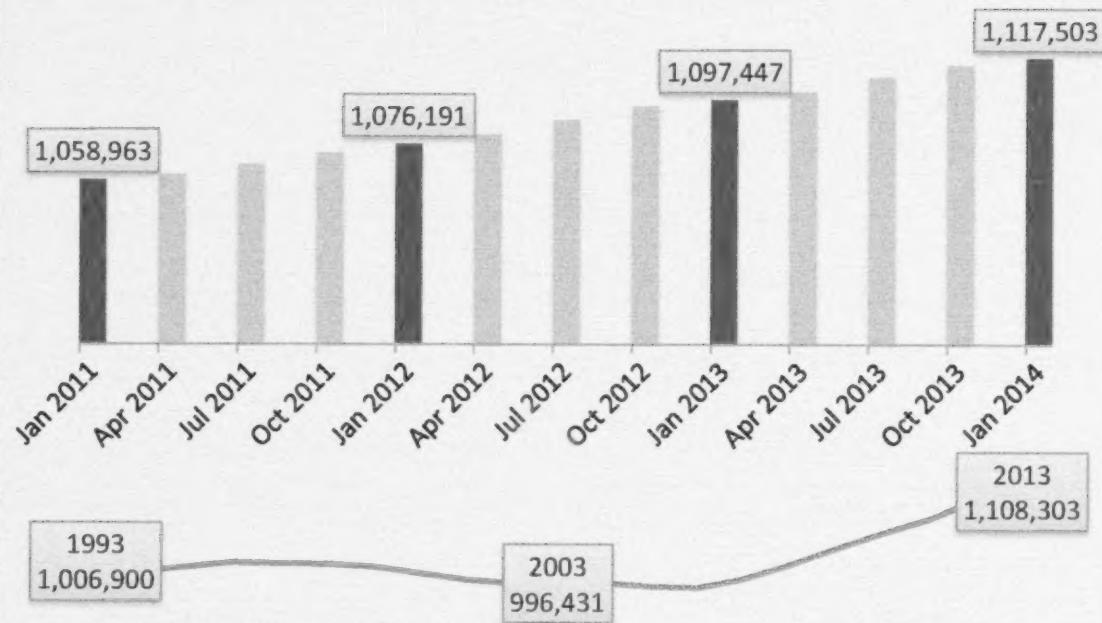
In February 2014, average weekly earnings were down in support activities for mining and oil and gas (-\$197.07), health care and social assistance (-\$98.71), educational services (-\$40.33), real estate, rental and leasing (-\$20.64), professional services (-\$15.92), transportation and warehousing (-\$12.75), administrative and support, waste management and remediation services (-\$7.94), and accommodation and food services (-\$1.39).

### Year to date (January to February 2014 vs. January to February 2013):

In the first two months of 2014, average weekly earnings increased in 11 of the 22 industry groups, led by mining (except oil and gas) at \$221.95, wholesale trade at \$95.81, public administration at \$78.13, and management of companies at \$69.80, compared to the same period in 2013.

Declines in average weekly earnings were observed in support activities for mining and oil and gas (-\$65.05), health care and social assistance (-\$53.51), administrative and support, waste management and remediation services (-\$15.96), and information and cultural industries (-\$14.30) in the first two months of 2014, compared to the same period in 2013.

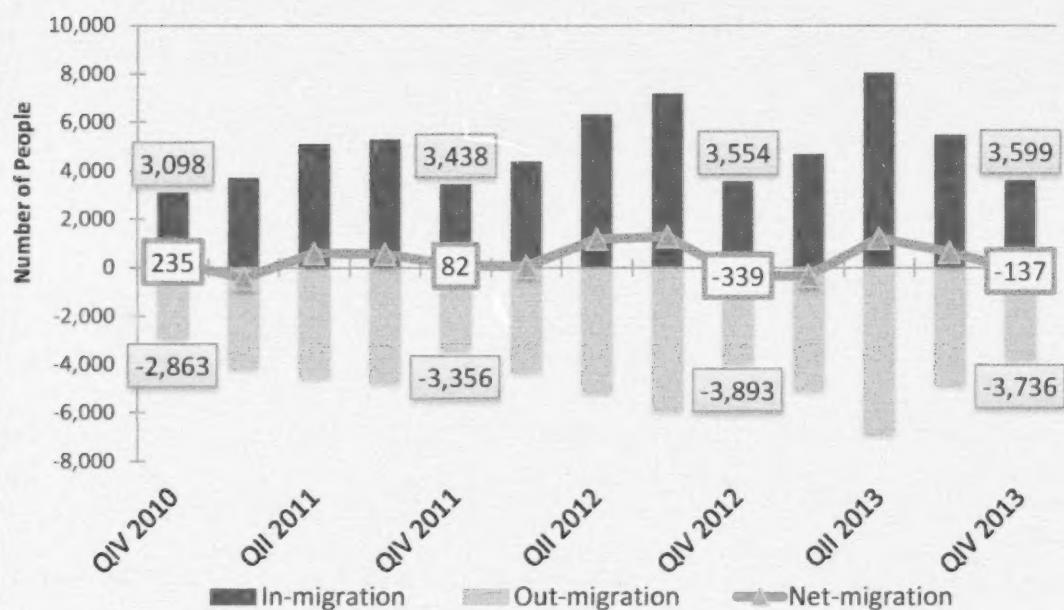
## Saskatchewan Population



Saskatchewan's population was estimated at 1,117,503 as of January 1, 2014, an increase of 20,056 people since January 1, 2013 (1,097,447) and an increase of 3,333 people from October 1, 2013 (1,114,170). The province's population has now increased for 31 consecutive quarters and is at its highest level on record.

Saskatchewan's population growth rate of 0.30% in the fourth quarter of 2013 was the second-highest among the provinces, and above the national average of 0.14%. Compared to January 1, 2013, Saskatchewan's population grew by 1.83%, which was the second-highest percentage increase among the provinces, and above the national average of 1.16%.

## Saskatchewan's Net Inter-Provincial Migration



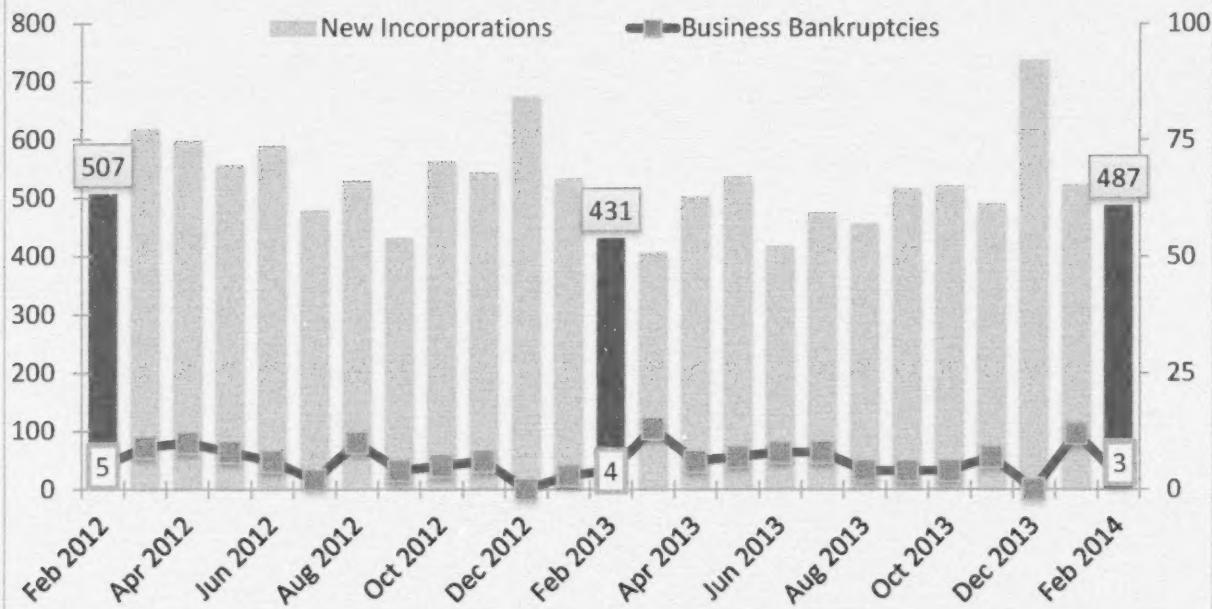
Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0001

In the fourth quarter of 2013, net international migration was the largest component of growth accounting for 2,332 of the total 3,333 change in population, while natural increase (births minus deaths) was 1,138 and net interprovincial migration was -137. Interprovincial in-migration was 3,599 compared to out-migration of 3,736 in the fourth quarter of 2013.

In the fourth quarter of 2013, Saskatchewan had net inter-provincial in-migration of -137. Eight of the 10 provinces had net out-migration in the fourth quarter of 2013, including Ontario (-2,729), Manitoba (-783), B.C. (-721), New Brunswick (-498), and Ontario (-378).

Saskatchewan had net in-migration from five provinces in the fourth quarter of 2013. Manitoba was the largest contributor with 206.

## Saskatchewan's New Business Incorporations and Bankruptcies



Source: Saskatchewan Justice and Bankruptcy Canada

### Year-over-year (February 2014 vs. February 2013):

New business incorporations in Saskatchewan in February 2014 totalled 487, an increase of 13.0% from 431 in February 2013.

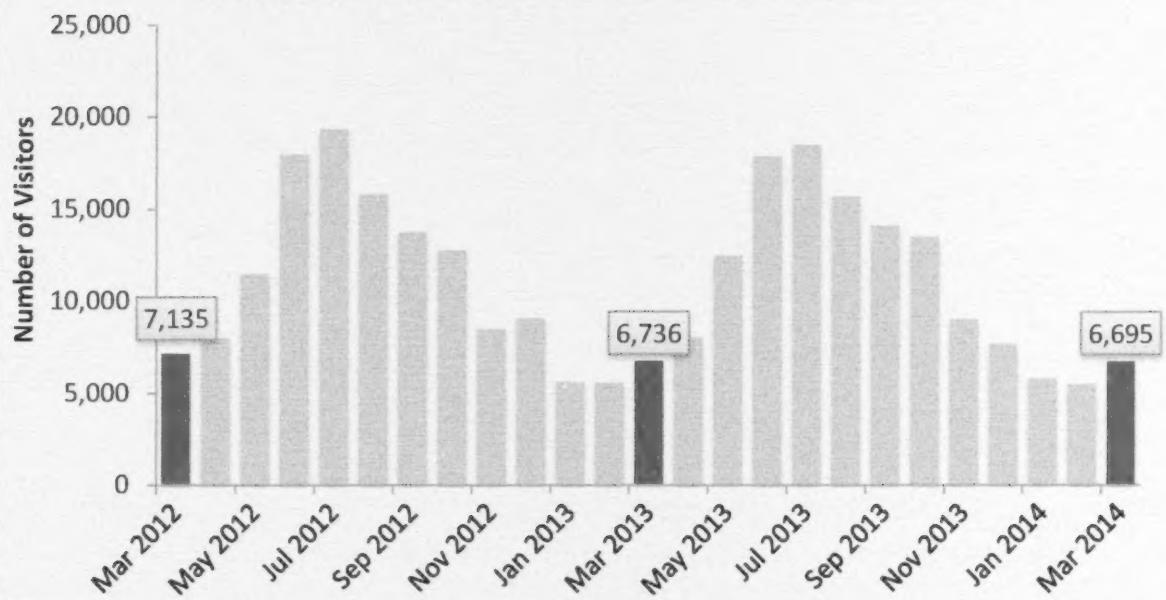
Business (including farm) bankruptcies were down by one, to three, in February 2014, while consumer bankruptcies were up by 14, to 87 in February 2014, compared to February 2013.

### Year to date: (January to February 2014 vs. January to February 2013):

In the first two months of 2014, new business incorporations increased by 4.8% to 1,011, compared to the same period in 2013.

There were 15 business (including farm) bankruptcies in the first two months of 2014, up by eight, from the same period in 2013. Consumer bankruptcies increased by 13.7%, or 21, to 174 in the first two months of 2014, compared to the same period in 2013.

## Monthly Arrivals by Out-of-Country Visitors Entering Saskatchewan Across the United States Border



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 427-0001

### Year-over-year (March 2014 vs. March 2013):

The number of arrivals by out-of-country visitors entering Saskatchewan across the border in March 2014 totalled 6,695, a decrease of 0.6% from 6,736 in March 2013.

### Year to date: (March to March 2014 vs. March to March 2013):

In the first three months of 2014, there were 17,943 out-of-country visitors entering Saskatchewan, an increase of 0.2% compared to the same period in 2013.

## Saskatchewan Economic Indicators

Indicator	Unit of Measurement	Annual			Year-over-Year				Year-to-Date (YTD)				Date of Most Recent Data	Next Release Date		
					Last Year											
		2011	2012	2013	Same Period	Latest Period	% Change	Rank	2013	2014	% Change	Rank				
<b>Economic Growth and Forecasts</b>																
REAL GDP at Basic Prices	\$M	\$54,570	\$55,791	\$58,452	\$55,791	\$58,452	4.8%	2	58,452					2013	Nov 15	
GDP at Market Prices (Current Dollars)	\$M	\$73,436	\$77,929		\$73,436	\$77,929	6.1%	2						2012	Nov 15	
FORECAST GDP GROWTH*	%										2.4%		2	2013		
<b>Labour Market (seasonally unadjusted)</b>																
EMPLOYMENT	000s	525.9	537.1	555.3	548.5	557.0	1.5%	2	546.9	552.9	1.1%	2	Apr 2014	Jun 06		
UNEMPLOYMENT	000s	27.6	26.7	23.0	25.1	21.4	-14.7%		23.2	23.9	2.9%		Apr 2014	Jun 06		
LABOUR FORCE	000s	553.5	563.8	578.3	573.6	578.4	0.8%		570.1	576.8	1.2%		Apr 2014	Jun 06		
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	%	5.0	4.7	4.0	4.4	3.7	-0.7	1	3.1	3.4	0.3	1	Apr 2014	Jun 06		
<b>Commodity Prices†</b>																
CRUDE OIL	\$US/barrel	\$95.08	\$94.20	\$97.94	\$92.07	\$102.07	10.9%		\$93.76	\$99.58	6.2%		Apr 2014	Jun 26		
NATURAL GAS	\$US/mmbtu	\$4.00	\$2.75	\$3.73	\$4.17	\$4.66	11.8%		\$3.67	\$5.07	38.3%		Apr 2014	Jun 26		
WHEAT	\$US/bushel	\$11.20	\$9.71	\$8.86	\$9.11	\$8.73	-4.2%		\$9.27	\$9.18	-0.9%		Apr 2014	Jun 26		
<b>Production and Exports</b>																
MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS	\$M	\$12,447	\$14,188	\$15,130	\$1,375.2	\$1,475.3	7.3%	4	\$3,880	\$4,237	9.2%	2	Mar 2014	Jun 13		
POTASH (K2O)	000s tonnes	10,378	8,826	9,738	1,096	959	-12.4%		2,626	2,649	0.9%		Mar 2014	Jun 01		
OTHER MINERALS**	000,000 kgs	9,791	9,694	8,987	821	710	-13.5%		2,509	2,409	-4.0%		Mar 2014	Jun 01		
CRUDE OIL	000 m3	25,073	27,409	28,202	2,423	2,602	7.4%		7,037	7,400	5.2%		Mar 2014	Jun 05		
NATURAL GAS	000,000 m3	6,167	5,631	5,516	458	472	3.0%		1,333	1,362	2.2%		Mar 2014	Jun 05		
FARM CASH RECEIPTS	\$M	\$11,044	\$11,838		\$2,755	\$2,499	-9.3%	10					Q3 2013	Jun 04		
INTERNATIONAL EXPORTS	\$M	\$29,592	\$31,531	\$32,268	\$2,996	\$2,786	-7.0%	8	\$8,305	\$7,566	-8.9%	10	Mar 2014	Jun 06		
<b>Investment and Construction</b>																
PUBLIC & PRIVATE INVESTMENT	\$M	\$19,606	\$21,613	\$21,345	\$21,613	\$21,345	-1.2%	7	\$21,345	\$20,945	-1.9%	9	2014 ***	Feb 2015		
NON-RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT	\$M	\$1,533	\$1,876	\$1,791	\$463	\$464	0.3%	6	\$1,876	\$1,791	-4.5%	7	Q1 2014	Jul 17		
RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT	\$M	\$3,112	\$3,784		\$1,155	\$1,014	-12.2%	8					Q4 2013	Jun 20		
BUILDING PERMITS	\$M	\$2,614	\$3,114	\$3,174	\$270	\$190	-29.7%	9	\$595	\$493	-17.0%	9	Mar 2014	Jun 05		
URBAN HOUSING STARTS	units	5,676	7,941	7,257	498	767	54.0%	1	1,654	1,973	19.3%	1	Apr 2014	Jun 09		
<b>Other Indicators</b>																
RETAIL SALES	\$M	\$16,199	\$17,405	\$18,301	\$1,364	\$1,473	8.0%	2	\$3,821	\$4,068	6.5%	2	Mar 2014	Jun 20		
WHOLESALE TRADE	\$M	\$21,422	\$21,948	\$23,972	\$2,269	\$2,204	-2.8%	9	\$5,589	\$5,680	1.6%	8	Mar 2014	Jun 18		
NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES	units	51,078	56,517	59,137	4,610	5,096	10.5%	1	11,938	11,795	-1.2%	6	Mar 2014	Jun 13		
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX		122.0	123.9	125.7	125.4	128.9	2.8%	9	124.8	128.0	2.6%	8	Apr 2014	Jun 20		
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS	\$	\$875.83	\$917.17	\$945.46	\$949.96	\$961.90	1.3%	10	\$936.00	\$953.56	1.9%	8	Feb 2014	May 29		
POPULATION	000s	1066.3	1087.5	1,108.3	1,097.4	1,117.5	1.8%	2					Jan 2014	Jun 17		
NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS		6,002	6,622	6,031	431	487	13.0%		965	1,011	4.8%		Feb 2014	Jun 01		
BUSINESS BANKRUPTCIES		104	79	68	4	3	-25.0%		7	15	114.3%		Feb 2014	Jun 01		
VISITORS	000s	129.1	135.3	134.5	6.7	6.7	-0.6%		17.9	17.9	0.2%		Mar 2014	Jun 21		

\* - Average based on seven forecasts

\*\* - Other minerals include uranium, base metals, bentonite, coal, gold, and sodium sulphate (and exclude potash and salt)

\*\*\* - Intentions

† from BMO Capital Markets Economics